

# **WHAT YOU OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR COUNTY**

*Progressive*

By CLARENCE POE

OUR "Reference Special" was as full of information as an egg is of meat, and whatever subscriber fails to file it away for future reference will regret his mistake very soon—just as soon as he wants some information the "Reference Issue" would have given him and then finds that he has thrown it away.

We could not in one issue, however, give all the important statistical information we wished to put before our readers. In addition to publishing the big outstanding facts about the reader's state, we now wish to give each subscriber the most notable facts about the agricultural conditions of his own county.

The following table will enable any Progressive Farmer subscriber in the Carolinas, Virginia or Georgia to get this information about his county according to the official figures of the 1910 census. The first column of figures shows the number of farms in your county; the second column shows the percentage of farmers (or what number of farmers out of each 100 total) are tenants; the third column shows the total number of white tenants in your county, and the fourth column the total number of Negro tenants; while the last two columns show the total number of mortgaged farms in your county and the total number of Negro farm owners in your county.

Our space does not permit us to give the total number of white owners, but this the reader can figure out for himself in a moment. Simply add together the number of white tenant farmers, Negro tenant farmers, and Negro farm owners and subtract the result from the total number of farms in your county as given in the first column of figures. The remainder shows the total number of white farm owners. The reader will do well to make a note of this item and then file all this page away in last week's "Reference Special" so he will know where to find it.

Another interesting question for every farmer is as to whether tenancy is increasing or decreasing in his county. In the column showing percentage of tenancy, therefore, we are putting an asterisk or star (\*) wherever the percentage of tenancy increased in the decade 1900-1910. Observe that this means not merely that the number of tenants increased, but also the proportion of tenants. In other words, if your county has the \* mark it means that the drift is toward increasing tenancy.

Here is the list and we again urge every reader to file away these figures with last week's "Reference Special."

## VIRGINIA COUNTIES

County	Number Farms	Per Cent Tenant	White Tenants	Negro Tenants	Negro Farm Owners	Mortgaged Farms
Accomac	2,977	57	987	729	145	432

Albemarle	2,741	14	364	44	581	287
Alexandria	96	18	18		6	18
Alleghany	574	16	94	2	17	28
Amelia	1,250	21	107	156	560	180
Amherst	2,317	33	464	322	500	207
Appomattox	1,196	36	287	153	204	126
Augusta	3,106	12	376	12	149	670
Bath	563	12	68	2	21	59
Bedford	3,962	27	812	277	579	418
Bland	763	*13	100	1	15	17
Botetourt	1,668	13	218	13	140	84
Brunswick	2,219	36	362	449	644	242
Buchanan	1,695	25	436		37	
Buckingham	2,127	20	230	201	766	81
Campbell	2,397	34	557	258	549	271
Caroline	2,648	23	355	260	929	320
Carroll	3,431	13	451	4	22	484
Charles City	844	10	38	52	570	40
Charlotte	2,209	41	490	416	605	246
Chesterfield	1,897	15	206	83	508	238
Clarke	585	36	205	10	15	114
Craig	560	8	47	2	11	31
Culpeper	1,615	10	140	29	447	282
Cumberland	1,520	27	113	300	623	201
Dickenson	1,417	*26	372		38	
Dinwiddie	2,274	33	286	469	772	238
Elizabeth City	360	21	42	41	103	58
Essex	1,480	19	189	99	706	129
Fairfax	2,320	15	305	42	272	446
Fauquier	2,400	14	312	35	498	391
Floyd	2,416	12	285	14	88	216
Fluvanna	1,438	17	173	73	420	111
Franklin	4,335	31	1,029	335	438	308
Frederick	1,765	19	347	4	23	340
Giles	1,263	*24	298	15	36	72
Gloucester	1,997	7	115	34	853	505
Goochland	1,252	11	81	63	546	111
Grayson	2,655	9	222	25	74	152
Greene	871	14	112	14	91	190
Greenville	1,187	44	177	354	370	240
Halifax	5,454	*54	1,538	1,433	909	415
Hanover	2,461	17	279	151	677	281
Henrico	1,508	15	190	50	280	256
Henry	2,353	52	712	516	257	96
Highland	736	7	53	2	17	52
Isle of Wight	1,645	*40	417	251	207	314
James City	490	16	46	37	183	82
King and Queen	1,629	17	195	92	741	176
King George	1,005	20	132	78	291	121
King William	1,088	16	116	63	509	128
Lancaster	1,191	11	100	36	519	208
Lee	3,222	*40	1,267	30	38	105
Loudoun	2,144	25	505	33	213	409
Louisa	2,223	13	194	98	879	223
Lunenburg	1,849	31	284	296	585	225

County	Number Farms	Per Cent Tenant	White Tenants	Negro Tenants	Negro Farm Owners	Mortgaged Farms
Madison	1,279	10	115	15	325	173
Mathews	1,387	5	66	10	234	121
Mecklenburg	3,636	44	662	944	929	395
Middlesex	1,514	11	120	46	726	397
Montgomery	1,676	8	136	4	141	180
Nansemond	2,102	31	325	342	582	339
Nelson	2,202	*34	520	234	376	111
New Kent	797	18	46	82	301	48
Norfolk	1,436	*45	347	299	236	178
Northampton	1,298	56	352	376	215	280
Northumberland	1,641	13	163	64	487	202
Nottoway	1,359	26	119	234	590	155
Orange	1,370	7	84	19	365	297
Page	1,322	6	87	3	36	167
Patrick	2,977	31	820	123	120	250
Pittsylvania	6,347	53	2,102	1,296	592	434
Powhatan	890	20	83	95	339	106
Prince Edward	1,682	27	205	261	662	206
Prince George	1,091	26	136	151	347	229
Prince William	1,264	15	172	18	172	221
Princess Anne	1,423	36	305	216	273	231
Pulaski	1,089	16	165	10	90	164
Rappahannock	966	15	124	25	150	117
Richmond	1,098	20	141	88	249	87
Roanoke	1,217	16	175	23	78	157
Rockbridge	1,994	*21	403	29	69	314
Rockingham	3,528	*12	434	9	60	556
Russell	2,857	*33	931	16	22	91
Scott	3,998	34	1,354	24	27	232
Shenandoah	2,288	12	278	1	3	439

Smyth	1,870	21	396	6	33	179
Southampton	2,882	56	601	1,012	415	368
Spotsylvania	1,590	11	128	60	493	289
Stafford	1,124	11	106	22	145	182
Surry	1,094	34	150	223	350	209
Sussex	1,624	*42	232	457	467	259
Tazewell	1,995	26	501	27	54	70
Warren	726	19	129	9	13	162
Warwick	431	*21	59	35	157	30
Washington	3,902	25	915	16	51	254
Westmoreland	1,315	24	163	156	413	144
Wise	1,731	25	445	4	8	68
Wythe	1,662	*14	236	7	52	177
York	1,123	9	58	52	473	133

## NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

Alamance	2,508	28	395	314	324	279
Alexander	1,924	21	366	50	383	75
Alleghany	1,466	15	205	17	94	42
Anson	3,332	*63	723	1,396	276	253
Ashe	3,215	16	507	10	203	63
Beaufort	2,951	*28	512	325	533	491
Bertie	3,183	*45	441	1,021	512	643
Bladen	2,495	18	220	234	211	762
Brunswick	1,646	*17	173	119	149	385
Buncombe	4,145	26	1,065	50	394	129
Burke	2,569	*28	662	59	283	181
Cabarrus	2,374	*56	848	481	227	75
Caldwell	2,548	*24	580	35	195	134
Camden	821	52	242	191	96	71
Carteret	982	*22	160	56	95	50
Caswell	2,002	56	500	625	156	167
Catawba	3,199	27	745	133	494	140
Chatham	3,646	39	775	659	294	397
Cherokee	1,912	35	667	6	61	21
Chowan	983	37	176	189	212	193
Clay	762	33	241	16	22	10
Cleveland	4,032	*50	1,460	579	303	112
Columbus	3,394	*16	386	174	473	662
Craven	2,098	*37	341	448	243	581
Cumberland	3,463	*39	615	744	294	594
Currituck	932	*36	169	168	76	82
Dare	136	1	1		8	10
Davidson	3,505	22	641	129	692	82
Davie	1,794	43	634	138	230	118
Duplin	3,847	*37	865	561	575	55
Durham	1,616	56	506	407	108	1
Edgecombe	2,929	*72	647	1,485	150	7
Forsyth	2,647	*25	566	120	489	
Franklin	3,567	*64	1,163	1,143	240	
Gaston	2,859	*49	811	613	251	
Gates	1,439	*28	225	181	308	
Graham	770	27	208	1	9	
Granville	3,259	57	895	983	358	
Greene	2,193	*72	774	806	15	
Guilford	3,776	27	753	278	57	
Halifax	4,295	64	601	2,158	8	
Harnett	2,710	*34	563	380	7	
Haywood	2,125	38	809	8		
Henderson	2,169	21	437	26		
Hertford	2,258	*54	496	732	307	4
Hyde	1,341	*51	347	348	154	4
Iredell	3,967	39	1,162	404	514	230
Jackson	1,897	24	451	21	94	137
Johnston	6,022	*47	1,977	879	754	268
Jones	1,367	*64	397	490	136	92
Lee	1,272	37	270	205	99	130
Lenoir	2,423	*65	833	761	262	54
Lincoln	2,244	41	728	204	234	107
McDowell	1,624	30	451	50	123	110
Macon	1,944	27	514	16	108	50
Madison	3,273	44	1,412	27	200	5
Martin	2,134	*42	445	469	367	308
Mecklenburg	4,439	*64	1,269	1,583	387	166
Mitchell	2,486	19	466	6	206	24
Montgomery	1,671	36	401	211	123	132
Moore	1,825	25	276	189	121	216
Nash	4,194	*62	1,302	1,302	333	235
New Hanover	420	23	43	54	68	118
Northampton	3,441	*56	584	1,371	369	442
Onslow	2,061	*34	443	260	185	214
Orange	1,967	37	427	301	175	194
Pamlico	1,082	*23	144	112	225	132
Pasquotank	1,264	*48	304	304	165	209
Pender	1,983	16	173	155	276	606
Perquimans	1,319	49	351	298	233	192
Pitt	2,365	*59	717	699	151	161
Polk	4,696	*64	1,331	1,716	505	230
Randolph	1,166	*42	390	103	114	40
Richmond	4,011	*20	730	109	633	240
Robeson	1,621	*57	301	623	83	248
Rockingham	6,450	*54	1,089	2,407	270	961
Rowan	3,189	54	1,177	561	280	180
Rutherford	3,241	37	910	315	517	162
Sampson	3,447	*46	1,272	317	249	194
Scotland	4,577	*33	897	623	532	607
Stanly	1,489	*74	349	764	31	67
Stokes	2,445	*34	712	141	349	93
Surry	3,357	47	1,346	258	450	96
Swain	4,187	*30	1,183	112	716	152
Transylvania	1,383	*30	392	28	31	155
Tyrrell	892	23	199	9	63	15
Union	698	*28	127	75	188	70
	4,856	*56	1,659	1,100	339	149







## Labor Conditions THE TENANT SYSTEM - WHAT IS THE REMEDY.

Governor-elect Ferguson of Texas was elected by his people on a platform which boldly endorsed the theory that the State should fix a maximum for rentals on lands in Texas. Mr. Ferguson is the author of the plank. He fought boldly for it. He is a banker and a trained business man of means. He is not, as was at first thought, a mere idle agitator. Whatever the faults of the Ferguson plan, and its chief fault is obvious, it is evident that the Texas leader is in earnest about this matter to which he has given the thought and consideration of a business man. Inasmuch as there is no problem before the Southern people greater—probably none so great—as our ancient, deeply imbedded tenant system, it is worth while here to take intimate note of the efforts of Texans to find a solution of this problem. E. C. Calvin, assistant manager of the Texas State Warehouse System going into details to show the spread of the tenant system in Texas and the growing menace to the system, writes:

In order to show how rapidly tenantry is increasing in Texas, I give the figures for 1900. In that year there were, all told, 349,630 farms. Of this number 174,639 were operated by owners and 174,991 by tenants. In the year 1900 there were only 352 more farms operated by tenants than by owners. In the year 1910 there were 23,712 more farms operated by tenants than by owners; an increase of 23,360 in ten years. This shows an average increase of 2,336 a year in farm tenantry. If the increase has continued at the same rate since April 5, 1910, the date of the last census, at the end of the five-year period, April 5, 1915, there will be 35,040 more farms operated in Texas by tenants than by owners. This is a conservative estimate based on actual figures for the ten-year period from 1900 to 1910 and I do not take into consideration the fact that the percentage of increase of tenantry for the ten-year period from 1910 to 1920 will be much larger than that during the preceding ten years, just as the percentage of increase during the period from 1900 to 1910 was much larger than that of the period from 1890 to 1900.

Based on figures covering a period of thirty years, there are today in Texas at least 40,000 more farms operated by tenants than by owners. If tenantry should increase at the same rate for the next thirty years at least 80 per cent of Texas' farms will be worked by tenants.

A staunch defender of the Ferguson plan, Mr. Calvin defends the theory. In the course of his defense and analysis of the system, he says:

Many object to an arbitrary rental by law and contend that it is unjust. That a tenant can work twice as much smooth land as rough land, and if the land is equal in fertility, the smooth land ought to be worth much more to the tenant than the rough land, and therefore the landlord ought to be allowed to charge more for it. Why use the rough land as a basis for fixing rentals? Why not use the smooth land? When a law is passed it will provide for a maximum rent of one-third and one-fourth, and the minimum will naturally take care of itself. Tenants will rent smooth, fertile land at one-third and one-fourth

as long as it lasts, and then if they can't do any better they will pay the same for rough land. After fixing by law the price of rents, proponents of the plan will probably demand that men at the age of 18 years shall be permitted to make contracts thus setting back the age limit three years. This is suggested in the interest of increasing the number of men who may seek to own their own farms, and so forth.

The Houston Post admits all that is said against the tenant system. It recognizes that the bane of civilization in Texas is the tenant system. But while Mr. Ferguson would limit rentals, The Post says that during his campaign he offered no remedy for breaking up the tenant system and effectively encouraging the ownership of land. He merely inveighed against those whose rentals were exorbitant without showing the way by which renters might easily become land owners.

The Post says the solution of this problem invites the deepest consideration from the statesmanship of the State, and that the first thing to do is to ascertain the fundamental cause of such widespread tenantry. "If the problem exists in every State, then our Federal Department of Agriculture might conduct a far-reaching investigation to ascertain," says The Post, "the causes which have operated to establish tenantry firmly in the United States." The Post, a conservative newspaper, goes so far as to say:

It seems to us that it would not be too much to say that the very future of the Republic itself is involved in ultimate solution of this problem.

"Absentee landlordism," that is our widespread tenant system, is undoubtedly a great evil in Alabama. Particularly here in the Black Belt is it a problem that has vexed our civilization for many years. There must come a solution of the question.

Our large plantations should be owned by many farmers, instead of by one land owner who employs unskilled labor to cultivate the land in a haphazard manner. It is not the duty of the State to seek by law to compel a change. The solution must come from another source.

The Advertiser believes that the Belgian, the German and the Scandinavian are the people capable of solving our tenant system more readily than any other agency now available. They will cut the farms into smaller tracts than other people. They will increase the production per acre to a greater degree than any other people we can get. They will make good citizens.

### FARMER ON TRIAL ON PEONAGE CHARGE

Augusta, Ga., April 16.—(Special.)—Inman Belt, a planter from Burke county, is on trial in federal court for peonage. It is charged that Belt and his assistants on the plantation persuaded a family to come from Augusta and made certain agreements to have them work on his place. When, it is claimed, he failed to keep his part of the compact and the family sought to leave, they were restrained by force. It is also claimed that they worked under a guard and were locked up at night.

### HIDING THE SOUTH'S LIGHT!

In a communication published today J. T. Holleman, of Atlanta, raises some points about the south, its timidity in pressing its advantages upon the rest of the country, the ignorance of the south that prevails in the north and the south's one-sided agricultural system that cannot be evaded by the southerner who thinks in the terms of the south's destiny.

Mr. Holleman, who has studied southern farm conditions for a generation, refers us to a communication by R. C. Cool, of North Carolina, in a recent issue of The Manufacturers' Record, of Baltimore. Mr. Cool takes virtually the position that brought Mr. Holleman into prominence when, in a communication in The Constitution last fall, he charged the existence of an "agricultural oligarchy" in the south, which prevents the farmer from diversifying if he were so minded, that is responsible for the evils of tenancy and the all-cotton folly. Mr. Cool goes a step further, and calls this "oligarchy" a "credit monopoly." He points to the manner in which Kansas has avoided its alleged baneful influences in that the farmers have developed financial independence, through the judicious use of farm mortgages which supply the cash that severs the shackles of the landlord.

Mr. Holleman and The Constitution are in entire agreement about the crushing and enslaving effects of tenancy. One of the quickest ways out lies in rural credits, which we have been pressing upon the attention of congress and for which Georgia must prepare by revising the wretched administration of her system of title laws.

Every farmer that owns his farm and that can snap his fingers at his creditors is an asset to the state; one step away from the tyranny of all-cotton. In that connection it should be the first duty of the forthcoming legislature to PUT GEORGIA'S TITLE SYSTEM UPON AN ORDERLY BASIS. Otherwise, Georgia is not going to secure her share of the benefits of rural credit legislation which congress will enact next winter or stultify the democratic party and its chances.

We cannot agree to Mr. Holleman's fear that cotton acreage is not going to be reduced this year. Infallible indications are all in that direction. In the first place, the very agencies, the "oligarchy," if you please, that annually finance the cotton crop are not going to run their head in the noose by financing another big crop. In the second, Providence already has worked on the side of reduction, by making the months that last year were ideal for big-crop planting all against big-crop planting. In the third, every publicity influence in the south is

working against overplanting and for a moderate crop, for diversification and for bumper food crops. We repeat the prediction: The acreage this year will show a greater percentage of decrease over the acreage of last year than any year preceding since the civil war. And the crop decrease percentage will be even greater.

As to the north's ignorance of the south's splendid opportunities for investment and for residence, The Constitution is in accord with Mr. Holleman. Thousands of northerners know more about Europe than they do about the country south of Mason and Dixon's line. It is not strange that a northern friend asked Mr. Holleman if the "orange crop around Atlanta was badly affected by the freeze."

The responsibility for such ignorance is divided between the north and the south. Northern periodicals have not hesitated to give the south liberal space and lurid illustrations. But as a rule they have been confined to alleged and distorted abuses and "sob" stories of the south rather than the south's advantages. They have given the west a squarer deal.

The south is to blame because it has been

hiding its light under a bushel. Catch the west at that sort of suicidal folly! The western railroads, magazines, boards of trade and other agencies have spent millions advertising the benefits and advantages of a country which, take it the year around, cannot compare with the south. They have eternally dinned the west into the ears of the world and the nation.

The southern railroads, commercial and other bodies are barely turning in their heels. Since the civil war they have let the west take from under their noses by flamboyant advertising millions of the south's producers.

The south must wake up to its own marvelous advantages and wake up the world to them!

### SETTLING THE SOUTH.

Substantial beginning of a work that promises important and far-reaching results for this section has already been achieved by the Southern Settlement and Development organization, with headquarters in Baltimore, and of which S. Davies Warfield, financier, railroad man and developer, is president.

The Baltimore Sun tells of the establishment, already arranged for, of a colony of sixty families, composed chiefly of young farmers from the Panama canal zone, who will, within the next sixty days, create a new township in Charles county, Maryland, where they have already secured 4,000 acres and have options on 6,000 more. The men



of these families come from the most substantial agricultural classes of Panama;

they were not gathered up haphazard in pursuance of a commercial colonization scheme, but formed a club of their own, admitting to membership only dependable workers. The club formed, they looked about for their site, found what they wanted and are now on their way to it.

It was through the Southern Settlement and Development organization, one of whose chief assets is the direct personal interest of President Warfield, that this colony was brought to Maryland, and through its efforts that arrangements were made for financing the establishment—for financing in enterprises of this kind is, of course, essential. The financial end of the proposition has been turned over to a specially organized company which has been provided with ample capital, and a plan has been arranged under which there will be no serious hardship put upon the colony's members.

Speaking of the project and the prospects involved in it, The Baltimore Sun says:

At least 2,500 acres will be cut up into small farms, and, perhaps, a larger area, if the Zone club increases its membership. The company which has arranged terms and conditions of purchase that are easy to be met by the colonists has in reserve an additional contiguous tract of about 7,000 acres which may be divided into small farms and sold to individual owners. So that eventually, instead of a farm colony of fifty families, the Charles county settlement will most likely expand to a hundred and fifty families. But at that there will be room for more settlers, and a splendid opportunity also for those who have the kind of stuff in them that goes to the making of a good farmer. There is reason upon which to base the expectation that this Zone club colony marks the beginning of an agricultural and horticultural renaissance for which southern Maryland has been long hoping, watching, waiting.

Maryland, already more thickly settled than Georgia and other states of the south, still has plenty of room for men of the right sort, and sees in this project a development that will mean unquestioned constructive advantage to the state.

The way is open for Georgia and other southern states to avail themselves of the good offices of this organization whose announced purpose is "to develop the south," and chief among whose by-laws, printed in red, is the statement, "That it shall NOT be one of the objects to make money for the said organization or the members thereof."

Georgia alone could take care of a hundred colonies of the right sort of men—could place them to the advantage of herself as well as that of the colonists. There is a valuable opportunity in the activities of the Southern Settlement and Development organization, of which no southern

state should lose sight.

## NEGROES AND MONEY CROPS

Editor The Advertiser: *advertiser*  
We were standing on Commerce street yesterday afternoon when two old country darkies—coming from different directions—met near us, and after shaking hands and expressing great joy upon meeting each other again, one of them suddenly exclaimed: "An' Brer Mose, hain't you glad dat cotton am gone up at last? Dey tells me dat hits jump'd way up onder an' hits gwine to stay up. Gentlemens, hit sho' do look lak good times am in sight er 'gin."

His companion replied: "Brer Jeems, I'se lib'd 'round in dis part ob Alabama for lo dese many years—an' I'se help'd raise many bales ob cotton endurin' de many years I'se spent on de farm, an' I'll tell you rite now dat I'm not glad dat cotton am took er rise, case hit would be far better for po white an' rigger farmers (I means dem dat runs one an' two-horse farms) ef cotton would go down to four cents er pound an' stay at dis price for de next ten years. For den de farmers would be 'blig'd to plant someting else sides cotton as dair money crop."

The first speaker pranced around a little, struck a match and after lighting his old clay pipe, said between puffs: "Brer Moses I is sartainly surprised to hear you talk dis way. De mo' you gits for yo' cotton de mo' money you'll hab in yo' pocket, an'—"

"Hold on dar Brer Jeems, I wants to ax you er few questions. Mose exclaimed.

"Set 'em down, brudder, I'se listenin' to you," replied Jeems.

Uncle Mose began: "Brer Jeems, how many bales ob cotton am you got to sell?"

Jeems replied that he had no cotton for sale, that his crop was disposed of last fall at six cents a pound, to satisfy guano and other debts.

"Dar hit am," Mose continued, "I had to do de same t'ing. So, you see Brer Jeems, us is not gwine to be benefited, no matter how high de price ob cotton mout go. Dem guano mens—an' udders dat us little farmers had to pay—no matter how little we got for our cotton, am de ones dats gwine to be benefited. An' er gin, er 'long 'bout dis time eberv spring cotton takes on er little spirt, an' rises er few cents, jest to git us fool-farmers to plant er nudder big crop an' in de fall de same old tale—'cotton ain't fetchin' nuddin'—but us little farmers must sell it, no matter how low de price mout be, 'case dem guano an' udder debts must be paid—an' paid rite now. I'se studied dis matter ober an' resolved to neber er'gin plant one hill ob cotton. No sar ree bob, I'se done wid cotton." Here Brer Jeems chirped in and asked: "How is you gwine to hab any money in de fall lessen you raise cotton? Dat's de money crop ob dis country."

Uncle Mose replied: "I hain't gwine to need much money, case I spects to raise plenty ob corn, 'taters, peas, syrup an' meat to do my fambly, an' for money crops, I knows whar dey are coming from—an' you don't hab to work from Crismas to Crismas to raise 'em either, an' dar am ten times mo' money in 'em den dair is in raisin' cotton."

Brer Jeems—"Say, Brer Mose, put me onto dat new crop you spoke er 'bout, case I'se gittin' awful tired raisin' cotton an' comin' out behind eberv year."

"Brer Jeems," Mose continued, "dar am mo' money in raisin' velvet beans an' sweet 'taters den in any udder crops in de South. You kin git \$3 per bushel for all de velvet beans you kin raise—an' dey will grow on de po'est land—an' from \$1.25 to \$3 per bushel for sweet 'taters. Gee whiz! An' den talk er 'bout growin' cotton for 6 an' 8 cents per pound. No mo' ob hit for Moses Jinkins. I heard ob er white man in an adjoinin' county plantin' 20 acres ob his po'est land last year in velvet beans an' gathered 500 bushels from dis 20 acres, an' sold 'em to de gov'ment (at Washington) for \$3 per bushel. All he had to do

was to hull 'em, sack 'em up an' send dem to de Agriculal Department, Washington, an' here's yo money rite back. Dis am no pipe-dream, dis am de gospel truth."

Jeems had been a very attentive listener to Uncle Mose throughout the conversation and finally told

his friend that he had been converted, that this year he would plant velvet beans and sweet potatoes on the land he had been planting cotton on, that any crop would be better than a cotton crop, and would bring in more money.

As they shook hands to separate, "Brer" Mose said: "Er wise man sees de error ob his ways, sometimes, an' changes, but er fool neber dose. I was er fool er long time, but at last I sees my error. Did you kno'. Brer Jeems, dat de aberage man neber habs any sense until he is old er 'nuff to die ob old age, den he has jist larnt er little. So long, Brer Jeems, may you raise er big crop ob velvet beans an' sweet 'taters dis year, am my wish. May de Lord be wid you 'till we meet er 'gin."

They parted, going in different directions, and we will venture to say that "Jeems" will put this cotton land in velvet beans and sweet potatoes this year instead of in cotton—like heretofore—and hundreds of other small farmers in this State—white and colored—would be five hundred per cent better off next fall if they would follow "Brer" Moses example and plant velvet beans and sweet potatoes instead of cotton, for there is always a big demand for the above articles of food.

S. A. FACKLER.

## THE CONTRACT LABOR LAW DECISION.

*advertiser* 12-2-14  
The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Alabama contract labor law case, will undoubtedly have a bad effect on labor conditions in Alabama. And we want to point out at the beginning that the worst sufferer will be the negro prisoner, who has been accustomed to send for some white friends to get him out of jail. The law on which the decision was based was designed as a friendly act to the prisoner, but this unfortunate will be the one who will suffer most, under the law as laid down by the Supreme Court. The prisoner will now have no hope of getting freedom of open work and opportunity of living and working, under the man who had helped him; his fine and his costs; he will have no other alternative than to work out his sentence in the mines or on the roads of the State.

The decision, however, followed the line laid down in another Alabama contract labor case, taken up from Montgomery county several years ago. At that time the Supreme Court punched holes in the Alabama labor contract law. This last decision, carrying forward the doctrine laid down in the first case was rendered in the case of two Monroe county planters who had been indicted in the Federal Court at Mobile, for peonage. We want to take occasion right here to say that there has been much nonsense and hypocrisy in this talk of peonage in Alabama. Men have been misrepresented by such talk and the State has been harmed by it.

In the Monroe county case, the court decided that if an employer went into court, paid the fine of a prisoner, and had him work out his contract agreement, as to the fine, such compulsion would be "peonage." That may be the law; the Supreme Court knows the law. But if the law was designed to

## BEATEN BY FARMERS.

### STATES NEGRO GIRL

#### AT PEONAGE TRIAL

*Advertiser* 4-1-15

A negro girl sprung a surprise in the trial for alleged peonage of eight prominent citizens of Fayette county yesterday when she exhibited clothing torn and covered with blood and told a story of being taken to a swamp, where she said she was subjected to a severe beating and threatened with drowning. Maggie Miller was introduced by the government to rebut the character testimony of the defense.

"It is my turn to drown our seventy-second victim," one of the men exclaimed after she had been beaten almost to insensibility in the depth of the swamp, according to her testimony. She was saved, she said, by the entreaties of a member of the group whom she did not recognize. When turned loose the girl walked 13 miles back to Griffin and gave herself up to a jailer named Langford for protection. In corroboration of her story Mr. Langford recalled the occasion and the pitiable plight of the negress.

Maggie said that her whipping came about six weeks after that of the negro Westmoreland, and was inflicted upon her because she had left the home of one of the defendants without his permission. She said that three of the defendants before Judge Newman were among her assailants.

Before the government rested its case the negro Westmoreland was reintroduced. He showed no traces of the spell of insanity which caused such a furor in the court a day or so before. Argument will begin tomorrow.

## ALABAMA MAN FINED

### ON PEONAGE CHARGE

*Advertiser*  
Mobile, Ala., December 3.—J. E. Dean, of Evergreen, Ala., charged with peonage in that he kept Wiley Jordan, a negro, in a state of involuntary servitude, entered a plea of guilty in the United States district court here late yesterday and was sentenced to pay a fine.

12-4-14  
This case was similar to the ones in which the supreme court rendered a decision last Monday upholding the peonage laws as constitutional.

benefit the unfortunate prisoner it has gone wide of its mark. Many a convict in the future will work out his time in the mines, when he would infinitely prefer to work out his fine and costs under some farmer, to whom he called in his extremity.



NEW YORK EVENING POST

## 1 December 1914 HALT ON COLOR LINE CALLED

### DECISIONS OF SUPREME COURT INDICATE ITS ATTITUDE.

Time Come to Stop Legislation Against  
Negro Is Interpretation of Ruling  
in Oklahoma "Jim Crow" and Ala-  
bama Contract Labor Cases—Latt  
Called Virtual Peonage.

[Special Dispatch to The Evening Post.]

WASHINGTON, December 1.—That the time has come in the minds of a majority of the Supreme Court of the United States for the States to halt in their legislation against the negro is the interpretation given here to-day to the decisions in the Oklahoma "Jim Crow" case and in the Alabama Contract Labor case.

In the Jim Crow case, the majority of the court led by Justice Hughes held that the proviso of the Oklahoma Jim Crow law to the effect that sleeping, dining, and chair cars might be furnished by the railroads to the white race alone, notwithstanding the general requirement of the law for separate coaches for the two races was in conflict with the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution. In the Alabama Contract Labor case, the Court following Justice Day held that the practice of planters becoming sureties for negroes convicted of petty offences and taxed with enormous costs on condition that the negro contract to reimburse the surety by personal labor for unusually long terms under penalty of arrest for breaking the contract was nothing short of peonage.

It was recognized by those who regarded the decisions as little short of epoch-making that the opinion in the Oklahoma case perhaps forever removed all hope of annulling laws providing for separate coaches for the races. Justice Hughes in his opinion stated that the Court agreed with the decision of the Eighth United States Circuit Court of Appeals, from which the case came, that previous decisions holding such laws valid

if equal accommodations were provided for the two races, were no longer to be questioned. He referred principally to the decision in the Mississippi Jim Crow case.

#### GRANDFATHER CLAUSE SPECULATION.

The point of Justice Hughes's opinion is taken as being that the majority of the Court believes the limit of constitutionality was reached in these previous decisions and that the Court will not permit their scope to be enlarged. In this connection, much speculation was indulged in as to the way in which the Court will dispose of the cases involving the validity of the "grandfather clause" method of disfranchising Southern negroes, a question now before the tribunal.

The limit in the case before the Court in the majority's opinion, was reached when Oklahoma, after requiring the railroads to furnish separate coaches and waiting rooms for whites and blacks, excused the railroads from furnishing sleeping-cars, dining-cars and chair-cars for negroes. The Court had listened to Attorney-General West, of Oklahoma, argue that the negroes must show before the law could be held unconstitutional that their volume of travel was such as to justify the furnishing of the "luxury" facilities in question, and had heard him say that the railroads could not be required to furnish these special accommodations when the market did not demand such. It had heard the attorney for the railroads contend that the members of the Legislature were undoubtedly familiar with the character and extent of travel by negroes and were of the opinion that there was no substantial demand for these facilities among those of the African race in the intrastate traffic of Oklahoma.

"It makes constitutional rights depend upon the number of persons who may be discriminated against, whereas the essence of the constitutional right is that it is a personal one," was Justice Hughes's reply to that argument.

#### AS TO ENTIRE ENACTMENT'S VALIDITY.

Only the fact that the suit for the injunction against the railroads enforcing the law was brought prematurely so as to make it impossible to state in the petition for an injunction against the railroads enforcing the law that the railroads had denied sleeping, dining, or chair-car accommodations to the complaining negroes while extending them to whites, including Indians and Mexicans, prevented the majority of the court from decreeing the proviso unconstitutional. Under the decision this is left to a case properly brought, and at that time must be decided whether the proviso alone falls, or

whether the entire statute is so connected with the unconstitutional provision that the entire enactment is invalid.

Comment is heard on the personnel of the justices who joined merely in the decree of the court without saying anything as to the constitutionality of the law. These were Chief Justice White and Justices Lamar and McReynolds, all from Southern States, and Justice Holmes from Massachusetts. This left Justices McKenna, Day, Van Devanter, and Pitney, at least all from Northern States, deciding with Justice Hughes that the proviso was unconstitutional.

In portraying the iniquities of the labor contract system of Alabama, Justice Day told the story of Ed Rivers, who the Government claimed had been held in peonage by a planter notwithstanding the Alabama Federal Court quashed the indictment against the planter on the ground that Rivers was not held in peonage.

Rivers had been sentenced to pay \$15 fine and \$43.75 costs. Under the Alabama code, he might have been sentenced to hard labor for not more than sixty-eight days. Or he might have signed up a labor contract, and that was what Rivers did. Under this arrangement, it was set forth that the planter in question came into court and paid the fine and costs and then, with the approval of the judge, entered into a contract with Rivers for Rivers to reimburse him by working at six dollars a month for nine months and twenty-four days. That was not the worst of Rivers's troubles. He admitted he was rearrested for failing to perform the service the planter had contracted for. This time he was fined one cent and \$87.75 costs, for which he was bound to work for another surety for fourteen months and seventeen days.

#### ENDLESS CHAIN FOR THE POOR.

Justice Day said that none of the elements of peonage was lacking in such an arrangement, and even Justice Holmes said that he concurred on the theory that human nature was such that poor folks were likely to keep on with these contracts in an endless chain.

Justice Day said:

"There can be no doubt that the State has authority to impose involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime. This fact is recognized in the Thirteenth Amendment, and such punishment expressly excepted from its terms. Of course, the State may impose fines and penalties which must be worked out for the benefit of the State, and in such manner as the State may legitimately prescribe. But here the State has taken the obligation of another for the fine and costs, imposed upon one convicted for the violation of the laws of the State. It has accepted the obligation of the surety, and, in the present case, it is recited in the record that the money has been in fact paid by

the surety. The surety and convict have made a new contract for service, in regard to the terms of which the State has not been consulted. The convict must work it out to satisfy the surety for whom he has contracted to work. This contract must be kept, under pain of re-arrest, and another similar proceeding for its violation, and perhaps another and another. Thus, under pain of recurring prosecutions, the convict may be kept at labor, to satisfy the demands of his employer.

In our opinion, this system is in violation of rights intended to be secured by the Thirteenth Amendment, as well as in violation of the statutes to which we have referred, which the Congress has enacted for the purpose of making that amendment effective.

## NEGRO FARMER FORCED TO LEAVE S. CAROLINA

50 White Men Visit Home and  
Warn Him to Leave before  
the Sun Goes Down

### SEEKS AID IN ASHEVILLE

*The New York Age*  
Forced to Abandon Family and Large Farm, Governor New and Son, Peniless and in a Strange Section, Seek Means to Secure Redress.

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Oct. 13.—The savings of a lifetime invested in a tract of 131½ acres of farming land in Greenwood County, S. C., Governor New, an aged Negro, and his son are in Asheville, refugees from home because of the threats made by a party of fifty white men who visited the New home a few days ago, gave the two men railroad tickets to Spartanburg, and told them that South Carolina was too small to hold them and that they must not allow another day's sun to go down over them in that State.

#### Old Man and Son Leave Home.

The old man and his son were given, they say, money to pay railroad fares to Hendersonville, N. C., but when that place was reached they were afraid to stop and came on to Asheville, reaching here penniless. The old man sought out a local attorney and begged him to devise some plan by which his condition could be alleviated. He said that his farm is entirely surrounded by the holdings of white people, and that a short time ago a white man offered him \$4,000 for his place, which offer he refused. The farm now has 12,000 pounds of cotton on it together with eight acres of corn.

Following the visit of the white-cappers, the Negroes were so frightened they feared to take time to dispose of

their holdings or to tell the other members of their families. Several croppers are on the old man's place, and he fears they may have been driven off, too. It may be that his property will be destroyed or seized by the ruthless ruffians and his family sent off in another direction. When the suggestion was made to him that he might be able to return without molestation to his farm, he refused to consider it, saying that "in South Carolina, when they tell a Negro to leave, they mean it."

#### White Attorney Interested in Case.

The attorney to whom New made his appeal has interested himself and called in others of his white friends, and he will make an effort to get the matter before Governor Blease of South Carolina with the hope of getting aid for the old man and bringing the alleged white-cappers to justice. The attorney declared that he intends to put forth his best efforts in behalf of the unfortunate Negro, and he believes that his appeal will be favorably considered by the chief executive of the Palmetto State. He expresses belief in the Negro's story and has asked for descriptions of some of the men who formed the party.

## FARMERS TOO POOR TO KEEP CHILDREN

Tenants in North Texas  
Offer to Give Little Ones  
Away—Woes of Farmers  
Recounted by Steward.

*Advertiser* 3-18-15  
Dallas, Texas, March 17.—W. S. Noble, secretary of the Land League of Texas, told the federal commission on industrial relations today that he had this week found two land tenants in north Texas so poverty stricken that they were offering to give their children away. He testified at the hearing on American farm land conditions.

Noble said he had found these tenants in a search for what he considered a typical example of the poorer class of tenant farmers. Not believing them typical, he said, he had brought to Dallas, as a voluntary witness, L. T. Steward, a farmer, whose experience was similar. It is said, to some fifty thousand tenant families in the southwest. Steward then took the witness stand. Alongside sat his wife and six of his eight children, ranging from three to twenty years old. Three of the smallest were barefooted, their feet showing sores from frost bites.

#### Efforts to Buy Farm.

Steward described his efforts for twenty years to buy a farm, beginning in Arkansas and finally coming to Texas. After his first year's farming,



he said, he sold his mule to get "square of debt." Next year, he borrowed a mule and "came out \$15 to the good." Then he bought a small farm on six years time, but was forced to give it up for lack of \$40 to meet payments at the end of the first year.

After several years he got \$200 ahead, and bought an 85-acre farm in Arkansas. He did well, but two children died and their doctor bills cut into his savings so that he gave up the farm, unable to meet the interest. He told the commission that one year he had lost money when cotton was seven cents a pound, but that he saved a little the next year when he received only four cents per pound. He saved by reducing living expenses.

He said sometimes his wife "got to town" only once in two years. At times he had lived too far from a school house for his oldest boy to attend. Then when he lived near town later on, the boy was ashamed to go on account of his clothing.

He said he never kept any track of the amount of such expenses, except to live on as little as possible, buying but one two-piece ready-made suit in the last five years. When his profits were high, he said, these bills always about equalled the profits. He said he had paid on credit from \$1 to \$1.25 per bushel for corn, which was selling for cash at 75 cents a bushel.

Several weeks ago his hogs, his only remaining food supply, were sold under foreclosure for debt.

#### Hard Life of Mrs. Steward.

Mrs. Steward, the mother of eleven children, was questioned by Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, a member of the commission. In Arkansas, she declared, she worked in the field every year except one.

Her routine, she said, was to get breakfast at 4 in the morning, work in the fields until nearly noon, then return to the house to begin household duties, and take "one day out a week" to do the washing. For several years she made her husband's clothing, her own and her children's. Mrs. Harriman asked about farm tenant housing conditions.

"Some houses are tolerably decent," replied the witness. "Some are not. I have carried water myself half a mile from the nearest well to the house."

After coming to Texas, Mrs. Steward stopped field work, replacing it with sewing until, she said, her sewing machine was taken away a week ago to pay debts. She said she had known many women who worked as hard. Since the first of this year, Mrs. Harriman brought out, the family has not had enough to eat.

"Don't you worry?" asked Mrs. Harriman.

"I always say," replied the witness, smiling, "that I never let any more trouble fly over my head than I can kick off with my heels."

"Good philosophy," commented Mrs. Harriman.

#### How Credit System Ruins.

Professor E. W. Leonard, of the department of economics of the University of Texas, gave the commission figures from his investigations, tending to explain how the credit system in vogue made it impossible for tenants to get out of debt on many farms. He testified that many land owners cooperate with their tenants with the purposes of building up good estates and that on such farms tenants usually are prosperous. But he said there is a class of land owners who practically compel their tenants to keep moving to other farms by driving hard bargains and another class who, through the general speculative rise in land values in the southwest and their need or desire for an ordinary rate of interest on capital represented in such lands, exact ruinous rents. Tenants

on these two classes of farms, he said, seldom get enough money ahead to pay cash, but mortgage their next year's crops for living expenses.

#### Arrest of Idle Negroes.

R. W. Getzendaner, a banker of Waxahachie, Texas, and large owner of farms, asked about a report that idle negroes in Waxahachie were arrested last fall charged with vagrancy and forced to work in cotton fields at fifty cents a day, when they had demanded sixty cents. Mr. Getzendaner replied:

"I do not think they were arrested. I think the negroes just naturally went into the cotton fields. The news papers, I believe, said the negro would be arrested."

## CONVICT LAW OF ALABAMA TESTED

Federal Government Believes It Permits Peonage and Makes Test Case

## INDICT PLANTATION MEN

Federal District Court for Southern Alabama Holds No Peonage Committed.

## TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT

The Decision in this Case Will Affect the Convict Labor Laws of Several Other Southern States. It will Probably be Heard in October.

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 3.—The Federal government is seeking, by means of a case brought up to the Supreme Court from Alabama, to prove that the Alabama convict law permits peonage in violation to the Federal statute.

The test case is that of a colored man named E. W. Fields, who was convicted in Monroe County of larceny. Failing to pay the fine, J. A. Reynolds, a plantation owner, became surety for him, and, as permitted by the Alabama law, Fields contracted to work out the indebtedness during nine months at the rate of \$6 a month and keep. The government charges that Reynolds later had Fields arrested for failing to complete the contract. As a result of the arrest, Fields, in court, entered into contract to work fourteen months for G. W. Broughton, another plantation owner.

Reynolds and Broughton were indicted by the Federal government but the Fed-

eral District Court for Southern Alabama held that peonage had not been committed. The Supreme Court will probably hear the appeal next October. The disposition of this case, it is thought will have an important bearing on similar statutes in other Southern States.

## FARMERS TO FACE PEONAGE CHARGES

Government Alleges Defendants Are Members of Organization Which Has Been Terrorizing Negroes.

Accused of participation in a secret organization, eight farmers from Pike and Spalding counties will arrive in Atlanta this morning to face trial in the federal courts for peonage based upon the recent horse-whipping of a negro farm hand near Fayetteville.

Secret service agents who were detailed to Pike county to investigate the existence of an alleged "whitecap" band, will appear as principal witnesses. The victim, John Westmoreland, an aged negro, who traveled from Sapulda county to protest to the federal authorities against brutal treatment, will also be put upon the stand.

#### For Control of Negroes.

The existence of the clan is said to have been for the purpose of controlling the conduct and services of negroes in the upper section of Pike and the lower part of Spalding counties. It was composed, it is said, of farmers who employed a big number of negro farm help, but who experienced trouble in managing them.

The eight members to be tried are Franklin Huff, Charley Adams, Harry Putnam, W. H. Goodin, Floyd Moody, Ed Putnam, Elijah Starr and Bass Huff. Secret service operatives reported to the Atlanta office that the band had created a reign of terror in vicinity of their activities; openly waging hostilities toward negroes and whites alike, and banded together to protect one another in the fashion of organized outlaws.

On one occasion, it is reported, a negro woman near Griffin was mercilessly whipped into unconsciousness and about to be thrown into a river when more proud members of the clan interfered.

#### State Courts Fail.

An effort was made by the state courts of Fayetteville and other county seats, it is said, to put an end to the operations of the band. When its activities persisted the Westmoreland negro, so severely whipped that he suffered even upon his trip to Atlanta, was sent to government officials here to protest.

His protest resulted in the assignment of detectives from the depart-

ment of justice to investigate the band, with the result that indictments were recently returned by the government grand jury of the northeastern division, and the eight members alleged to have been concerned in the horse-whipping of Westmoreland were put under heavy bond.

The trial is set for 10 o'clock this morning.

## FORTUNATE FARM LABORERS

There is thought to be plenty of money in circulation among the truck farm laborers of the Norfolk section if the following clipping from a local paper is a fair indication.

"On Saturday, May 15, the wages paid the laborers in gathering the truck crops, shipped that day from the Norfolk section, exceeded \$30,000. It went promptly into nimble circulation Saturday night—the most of it. On Monday, May 17, the wages paid reached the snug sum of \$26,112.47. Every fairly good day, during the ensuing 60 days is going to see \$20,000 to \$30,000 paid to the laborers in the truck fields. The laborers are given tickets for their work during the week and cashed on Saturday of each week, and from \$100,000 to \$150,000 will be paid out to 15,000 to 25,000 hands every Saturday afternoon during the ensuing 60 days."

Norfolk is fortunately situated. In the midst of the greatest trucking section in the world and with a harbor unrivalled in shipping possibilities, the terminal of seven great railroads and the home of many factories the laboring classes are seldom found in actual need. Major Moton was not far wrong when he said in an address last Friday night that the American Negro laborer was the most fortunate of all labor classes. Practically all of the laborers referred to above as having from \$100,000 to \$150,000 distributed to them every Saturday afternoon during the trucking season are colored.

A. M. E. CONFERENCE. Consultation 4-26-75. Much Business Disposed Of on Thanksgiving Day.

Admission 11-27-75. Savannah, Ga., November 25.—(Special.)—The African Methodist Episcopal conference had a busy session today.

Dr. H. L. Smith preached the Thanksgiving sermon to a large crowd. Pastoral reports show \$600 raised for general claims. A heated argument resulted over the discussion of the rights of visiting ministers to make motions in a conference of which he is not a member. Rev. S. B. Shaw took superannuate relations.

A resolution was offered by Rev. W. B. Johnson and others thanking The Atlanta Constitution for encouraging editorial on negro farmers of the south. The body unanimously adopted the paper.

Several pastors and wives of other ministers were reported as having died during the year. The negroes of Savannah gave a banquet to the ministers, delegates and evangelists tonight.

Rev. G. W. Macklemore, of the Evangelical Christian church, asked to join the A. M. E. church and was sent to a committee. The missionary meeting was presided over by Presiding Elder Harmon. Addresses were made by Revs. C. M. Tanner and J. A. Hadley.

NEW YORK EVENING POST

3 December 10

Besides its opinion on the Jim Crow question, the Supreme Court on Monday gave another that seriously concerns the civil rights of negroes in some of the Southern States. The particular case arose out of that peculiar system under which, in lieu of the ordinary form of punishment for a criminal offence, by fine or imprisonment, the offender is virtually placed in a state of peonage. The practice consists in permitting a planter to become surety for a negro condemned to pay a fine for some petty offence, the negro contracting to reimburse the planter by a long term of service, the breaking of this contract being itself treated as a crime and subjecting him to fresh arrest and punishment. Justice Day, in handing down the opinion of the Court, drew a clear distinction between the "involuntary servitude" imposed by the State as "a punishment for crime" which is contemplated in the Thirteenth Amendment, and this kind of involuntary servitude of which the duration and character are practically beyond the State's control. "This system," says the Court, "is in violation of rights intended to be secured by the Thirteenth Amendment," and of laws enacted by Congress in pursuance of that amendment. There ver, in this matter, no reason intelligent Southerner should desire to countenance an evasion of the Constitution. Quite apart from any question of right, the thing is sordid, barbarous, and demoralizing.



# Alabama Peonage Indictments Affirmed By Supreme Court of United States

Decision Upholds That Convicts, Held Under Criminal Contracts To Work Out Their Fines And Costs With Persons Who Appear As Financial Sponsors, Are Held In Peonage, This Action Being In Case Of Two Alabama Planters

Adventures 12-7-14

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—The supreme court today decreed that convicts, held under "criminal contracts" to work out their fines and costs with persons, who appear in court as their financial sponsors, were held in peonage. The indictment of two Alabama planters who held a negro under such a contract was sustained.

The two planters were J. A. Reynolds and G. W. Broughton of Monroe county, Alabama, who became surety in turn for Ed Rivers, a negro. Rivers first contracted to work out the money Reynolds had paid into court to satisfy a conviction of Rivers for petit larceny. When Rivers was arrested for not completing his contract with Reynolds, Broughton entered into a similar labor contract with Rivers.

## LOCAL INTEREST SHOWN IN DECISION OF COURT

The decree of the United States Supreme Court sustaining indictments against two Monroe County planters for working convicts under "criminal contracts," in effect, makes many citizens of the State subject to prosecution on a like charge.

Much interest was apparent at the Capitol when the intelligence of the Supreme Court's decision was received. The Government's case was based on the contention that peonage has been legalized in Alabama by the confession of judgment law, under which financial sponsors of a convicted man pay his fine and command his services until the debt is satisfied.

The Monroe county planters were indicted by the Federal grand jury at Mobile, but demurrers of the defense were subsequently sustained by the presiding judge.

An appeal from this decision was taken, attacking the constitutionality of the State law. Arguments for the law were made at Washington by Attorney General Brickell and Assistant Attorney General Martin.

The law held invalid has been on the statute books for about forty years, and the practice permitted under its provisions has been common over the entire State.

Pending the receipt of the Supreme

nal Court's opinion, the Attorney General's office refrained from comment.

## NEEDS OF SOUTH ARE CONSIDERED

At Meeting of the Southern Commercial Congress. Tenant Farming Attacked by President of University of Arkansas.

Muskogee, Okla., April 26.—Mounted cowboys and Indians driving motor cars lent picturesque touches to a parade welcoming delegates to the sixth annual convention of the Southern Commercial congress, which began five-day session here today.

In his opening address Senator Duncan U. Fletcher, of Florida, president of the congress, asserted that the convention marks the esteem "which the other states of the southland hold for their youngest sister, Oklahoma."

Delegates from every state and important city in the south and from numbers of northern and western states were in attendance today.

A broader conception of the agricultural needs of the south was urged by several speakers today. John C. Futrall, president of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, advocated smaller rural population and improved farming methods as the solution for the agricultural problem of the south. Mr. Futrall pointed out that the south's large percentage of rural population is not an asset, but rather an evidence of poverty.

"What we need in the south is not the one-horse type of agriculture now prevalent," he said, "but the scientific methods which will enable fewer men to produce a larger product."

"Most southern farms have an economic loss, but the farmer uses himself instead of animal labor and agricultural machinery. Usually he would be making more if he were to sell or rent his farm and hire himself out as a day laborer."

As one step to effect reform in the south, Mr. Futrall urged diversified

farming and said that "aside from cotton, no southern state produces enough staples to supply the wants of its own people."

### Tenant Farming Destructive.

Mr. Futrall pleaded against tenant farming on an economic basis and asserted "it is destructive to the and spiritual life of a community. A tenant farmer hesitates to make permanent improvements for landlord may dispossess him, landlord will not spend any money he is forced to on roads, schools, churches and other civic welfare, he said."

The negro problem is to be solved he pointed out, by providing for negroes a compulsory system of industrial and agricultural education.

"After all," he concluded, "solution of all of these problems, the main hope for improvement in southern conditions lies in agricultural education—the incorporation into every rural school of a strong agricultural feature and of wider extension service."

Establishment of state land commissions which would act as clearing houses between land available for purchase and home-seekers was urged by Professor Charles B. Austin, another speaker. Professor Austin, head of the division of public welfare of the

University of Texas, asserted that such a commission should keep tenant farmers informed as to land opportunities and assist them to "a more productive home-owning citizenship."

He also decried the growth of tenant farming in the south, pointing out that although one-half of its farmers are renters, Texas has not as large a percentage of tenant farmers as have six other southern states. Of these, Mississippi, he said, with 66.2-3, has the largest. The others in order of percentage of tenancy, he continued, are Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana and Oklahoma.

### Tenancy and Cotton.

"In Texas, tenancy and cotton go hand in hand," Professor Austin said. "The soil in some sections has invited the farmer to raise one crop—cotton—without diversification or rotation. As a result some sections of east Texas are comparable only to the abandoned farms of New England."

The speaker pointed out that because of the value of the lands in the black lands prairie district, along the red river from Denison south to the gulf, a renter stands only about one change in fifty of becoming a home-owner.

Robert J. Williams, governor of Oklahoma, in an address of welcome pointed out the business and agricultural opportunities of Oklahoma and asserted that the state was closely bound to its sister states of the south, having within its borders a cosmopolitan population recruited from every section of the old south.

The governor declared Oklahoma is no longer "a bad boy state," but is a place in which the golden rule is being applied to every dealing between men.

"Oklahoma and the states of the southwest are the logical places for colonization," he said. "The southwest, through its gulf ports, will have as important a part to play in the future development of American commerce as had the Mediterranean sections of the old world."

### Home-Ownin' Yeomanry.

W. A. Graham, commissioner of agriculture of North Carolina, another speaker, declared that several serious problems must be solved "before the south can be rejuvenated."

"We must create a home-owning yeomanry who will raise crops to feed themselves and thus recover their lost independent condition," he said. "We must establish the principles of co-operation in buying and selling by means of township, county and state organizations. We must teach the farmer to think by inducing him to attend institutes. Too many farmers who know that they must live by the sweat of their brow believe the brow is situated in the back."

"We must have rural credit laws that will free the farmer from the curse of borrowing, and we must have a currency system that will give the farmer the money he needs when he wants it."

Development of the country's waterways and resultant transportation competition will prove more effective in relieving the United States of excessive freight rates than efforts of the interstate commerce commission or other bodies, to regulate the railroads, according to Senator Joseph E. Ransdell, of Louisiana, chairman of the senate committee on rivers and harbors and president of the National Rivers and Harbors' association, who addressed the congress tonight.

"I am not an opponent of the railroads," Senator Ransdell declared, "for our railroads have been the greatest civilizers the world has known. But the shippers and consumers are entitled to the use of the waterways, and such competition is the proper way to regulate our roads."

"The chief advantage of water transportation is its great cheapness compared to rail," Senator Ransdell said.

To make competition between water and rail transportation lines possible, Senator Ransdell said, the southern steamboat man must dispense with the old-fashioned negro stevedore and install mechanical devices such as are used on the great lakes.

"I believe every waterway in this country should be developed to the greatest possible extent, provided it can be done at a reasonable cost," he asserted. "They should be given over to private-owned lines, just as our railroads are. It is useless economy to attempt to cut any appropriation for such development."

### Herrick on Rural Credits.

Myron T. Herrick, former ambassador to France, discussed rural credits and the question of state aid to farmers. He voiced his opposition to the Hollis-Bulkley bill and the McCumber amendment, which, though they failed of passage in congress, contained provisions for state aid which were bound to come up again.

"State aid, in ordinary times," he said, "is a great wrong, and means simply the bestowal of a benefit on one person at the expense of the public. The farmers are not chronic borrowers; many are depositors and not a few are stockholders and officers in county banks; and all are taxpayers on property whose value is incalculable. The majority have no need of special favors, and when they realize that they must pay by increased taxes their share of the cost and any loss, they will oppose such class legislation. The public should awake to the dangers which lurk in these two bills and many other measures pending in congress. Once on the statute books it would be difficult to repeal them until they had precipitated a crisis."

Mr. Herrick said that he did not believe that the intervention of government should go any further than the supervision and publicity now enforced against national and state banks.

"I believe that American farmers could obtain results from co-operation, surpassing those in all other countries, if proper laws were enacted and correct principles followed," Mr. Herrick continued. "Their self-sufficiency and absence of community life, led as arguments against its success, are the very reason why co-operative organizations should be introduced."

"As soon as the farmers were organized in local groups, for banking and business, the headquarters would become the social center of the locality, exactly in the German way. This combination of social relations with financial, commercial and industrial affairs would quicken the intellect and moral sense, better the conditions of country life, and especially make the existence of the farmers' wives more useful and enjoyable, particularly in states where women possess complete civil and political rights."

## WHITE CAPS ORDER BLACKS FROM FARMS

Shots Fired Into Tents of  
Negro Cotton Pickers

Arouse Farmers  
The Dallas Express

Ballinger, Tex., Oct. 29.—Trouble is feared in the northern part of Runnels county as the result of whitecap raids which have taken place in the camps of Negro cotton pickers, imported here by farmers to gather the crop.

Tents of the Negro campers were shot up last night by a gang of whitecappers, and notices were posted, warning the negroes to leave the country.

Up to last month there had been few Negroes in this section of the state. Recently, however, farmers have begun importing them to pick the big cotton crop which has been raised. They have been living in tents on the plantations of the various cotton farmers who had hired them.

Farmers have been put to heavy



expense in bringing the laborers here and, it is declared, will protect them.

—Tuesdays Herald—White paper.  
And this is a Christian country.

Pay Negro Laborers \$6 a Month.  
To the Editor of The Age:  
I am a reader and lover of The Age and I want to say that the section of the country is in a critical condition, so far as the advancement of the Negro goes. The whites in this section have formed a combination not to pay Negro laborers more than \$10 per month, and numbers of Negro men are working for \$6, \$7 and \$8 a month. Making a rough calculation, wages average 25 cents per day. On \$6 per month a man has to live and provide for his family, and how can he do it? Flour is \$8 per barrel, besides the other household expenses.

When the white people of this country will consider that the Negro needs money to live on as much so as the whites, the advancement of the country will be greater. Better citizenship will develop among the colored population. Mean, grafting white men make mean Negroes. Wherever there is a good community of white people there is a good community of Negroes also.

D. PALMER.

Mt. Taber, S. C.

#### Would Keep the Negro on the Farm.

Jackson News.

Early in the beginning of the European war, and consequent business depression, it was evident that, in so far as the South is concerned, the negro would be the keenest sufferer; that he would be lost or confused in the process of readjustment, and be forced to endure much hardship while getting himself acquainted with changed conditions. This is unquestionably true. The negro who has been growing cotton that is no longer needed is going to find it hard to get lucrative employment, and many of them are making the fatal mistake of quitting the farms and flocking to the cities. We need a campaign in Mississippi right now to keep the negro on the farm. His condition in the country may be far from satisfactory, but it will be even more so in the cities.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

JOURNAL

OCT 3 0 1914

#### Texas Fire on Negro Cotton Pickers

BALLINGER, TEX., Oct. 29.—Shots were fired last night into a tent colony of 2,000 negro cotton pickers in the northern part of Runnels county. Warnings were posted for the negroes to leave the county. Few negroes have resided in this county and the tent colony was brought here by several farmers to harvest a big cotton crop. The farmers today announced they will protect the negroes.

## INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS BY COLORED PEOPLE

### Census Shows That They Are Rapidly Advancing From Laborers To Farm Owners

When it is realized how far the Negro has come in the last fifty years it is not hard to account for the extent and degree of confidence in his future. The census of 1910 shows that two out of every five persons engaged in gainful occupations in the 16 southern states are Negroes. Of the entire Negro population in these states 63 per cent are in some form of industrial occupation. Of all the Negroes engaged in industrial activities 60 per cent are agricultural workers. Something like a million Negroes have developed from agricultural laborers to farmers in 50 years.

The efforts of the colored man to help himself have been strongly in his favor, for they have inspired the confidence of the white people and made a plan of co-operation between the two much easier than it would otherwise have been. Because of this new valuation of the agricultural or industrial Negro there has come a truer appreciation of the human qualities involved.

There has been the feeling that the fine qualities in the character of the faithful slave were the fruitage of hardships and careful training, and there was a doubt about these qualities springing from a different, freer soil. But southern whites are now coming to believe that these qualities depended not upon accidental conditions of slavery, but resided in the possibility of their human nature. The basis of this conviction is distinctly religious. White people have greater confidence in the Negro because they have greater confidence in all humanity.—Marc N. Goodnow, in the Chicago Daily News.



From the going Car

## Had the South Never Raised a Bale

12-6-15

no other region on earth known to man possessing the remarkable combination of advantages to be found in the South for the widest variety of manufactures.

In the South there are 88,000 square miles of more than \$1,100,000,000, was considerably less than coal, or twice as much coal area as all Europe possesses, and more than four times as much as all of Europe outside of Russia. Three-fourths of the coking coal area of the United States, upon which depends the metallurgical development of the entire country, is in the South.

### Possibilities of the Great South.

This region, so richly endowed with coal, has likewise the advantage of having vast stores of iron ore in close proximity to its coal.

It is the chief source of supply of lumber for the United States.

It has water power of almost limitless potentialities.

It is the centre of the world's greatest activities in natural gas and oil production.

It produces about three-fourths of the sulphur of the world.

It has more than one-half of the entire coast line of the United States.

It has a variety of soil that, according to its kind, will produce almost any variety of crops, from the semi-tropical of Florida and the Gulf coast to those that require the cold climate of the high mountain regions.

And yet a country so marvellously endowed with advantages for diversified agriculture and for diversified and extensive manufacturing in every line of human activity has made cotton its fetish, and in the worship of cotton has failed to gain that almost limitless prosperity which nature seems to have foreordained for it when it dowered it more richly with natural resources than any other country on earth.

### Possibilities of Cotton All but Boundless.

Notwithstanding this view of the situation, however, cotton is a wonderful crop, whose potentialities when wisely controlled are almost boundless. The South produces about two-thirds of the world's cotton. In this practical monopoly it has an advantage over all other countries in furnishing the raw material for the second greatest manufacturing interest, surpassed in output by steel and iron alone. This very monopoly, however, has been a hindrance to the South. Had this section had to fight harder to maintain its cotton industry in competition with other countries, greater care in cultivation and in the handling of cotton would have been required. The very lavishness of the advantages given by nature for cotton growing has resulted in developing improvidence in the growing and the handling of the crop.

It is but natural that as the business and political life of much of the South has for a century centred around cotton this section should be extremely sensitive to anything that relates to its great staple. Cotton has, therefore, been the shibboleth of the politicians of the South. Whenever they have desired to stimulate interest in their own waning fortunes or to catch the applause of the crowd they have appealed to the fetish worship of cotton by the South. As the politicians for half a century before the war used slavery, and for half a century after the war the bugaboo of the free negro, to solidify the political thought of the South, so they have for generations used cotton as something that immediately catches the ear of the South and appeals to its enthusiasm when cotton is boasted and to its prejudices when cotton is in their judgment mistreated or its value minimized.

### Cotton Sometimes a Curse.

As wonderful as cotton is, far reaching in all the ramifications of the world's trade and when rightly used one of the best material blessings Heaven ever gave to any country, it often proves a curse by ab-

sorbing so much of the thought of this section. Even liberality to religious or educational work largely depends upon the price of cotton, and yet by the South, which yielded, including the seed, one-third of the total value of the South's agricultural products for the year.

**If half of the energy given by press and by politicians to the discussion of the wrongs alleged to cotton were expended in stimulating the South to the diversification of its agriculture, instead of stirring the South to the worship of cotton, infinitely greater good would be accomplished.**

The South could turn from cotton growing to diversified agriculture with far less loss to itself than the loss to the business interests of the world outside of the South. The South is not one-tenth so dependent for its prosperity upon cotton as the great textile manufacturing centres of the world are dependent upon the South for their existence.

It has been demonstrated in every section of the South, from Virginia to far away Texas, that there is scarcely any portion of this region which could not turn to diversified agriculture to greater profit than raising cotton, even if cotton continued to sell at a high price. No greater mistake can be made by the South or about the South than to imagine that the soil of this section is better adapted for cotton than for other profitable crops.

Moreover, diversified farming would bring increasing fertility to Southern soil. Grains and grasses would mean hogs and cattle, and these would mean enriched soil and diversity of thought as well as diversity of farming.

### Broader Civilization Possible.

A broader and higher civilization would be the result of a campaign persistently fought out for inducing the landowners of the South, the bankers and the merchants and the manufacturers to use their utmost energy to lessening the interest in cotton growing and to increasing the interest of the tenant farmer as well as of the larger farmer in diversity in agriculture.

The highest ultimate prosperity to the South will come not from high prices of cotton, though high prices always bring temporary prosperity, but from the gradual lessening of the South's dependence on cotton and an increase of the South's attention to the raising of larger diversified crops and of livestock for which this section is so splendidly equipped by nature.

### Virginia.

There was a time when the farmers of Southwest Virginia, "the fairest land on earth," dug up blue grass, and even burned the roots, because of the dread of grass. In that same section, on that once despised blue grass, they now fatten the finest cattle that go to the markets of this or any other country.

### Florida.

There was a time when it was thought that Florida could raise only oranges and grapefruit and vegetables, but I have visited a farm of five thousand acres in the centre of Florida where Western men are growing grain and raising cattle to a larger profit than they were ever able to make in the best grain and cattle regions of the West.

May the day be hastened when cotton shall be dethroned as king in thought as in trade and in commerce, and when it shall be made a servant, blessing the South as a servant where it cursed it as king. Then this section will look back and rejoice that through much tribulation it has reached the Promised Land of diversified agriculture. For with diversified agriculture in its broadest sense will come the widest diversity of economic thought and educational advancement and abounding wealth.

NEW YORK CITY

Nation

DEC 10 1915

Besides its opinion on the Jim Crow question, the Supreme Court last week gave another that seriously concerns the civil rights of negroes in some of the Southern States. The particular case arose out of that peculiar system under which, in lieu of the ordinary form of punishment for a criminal offence, by fine or imprisonment, the offender is virtually placed in a state of peonage. The practice consists in permitting a planter to become surety for a negro condemned to pay a fine for some petty offence, the negro contracting to reimburse the planter by a long term of service, the breaking of this contract being itself treated as a crime and subjecting him to fresh arrest and punishment. Justice Day, in handing down the opinion of the Court, drew a clear distinction between the "involuntary servitude" imposed by the State as "a punishment for crime" which is contemplated in the Thirteenth Amendment, and this kind of involuntary servitude of which the duration and character are practically beyond the State's control. "This system," says the Court, "is in violation of rights intended to be secured by the Thirteenth Amendment," and of laws enacted by Congress in pursuance of that amendment. There is, moreover, in this matter, no reason why any intelligent Southerner should desire to countenance an evasion of the Constitution. Quite apart from any question of right, the thing is sordid, barbarous, and demoralizing.

## PEONAGE IS CHARGED AGAINST DR. ELROD

Negro Declares Russell County Physician Has Held Him in Peonage Five Years.

Peonage is charged against Dr. Robert Elrod, a prominent physician of Jernigan, Russell County, who was brought to Montgomery last night to answer an affidavit made by John Williams, a negro, who declares the physician has held and worked him against his will. Dr. Elrod made bond before Commissioner Elmore late last night, and his hearing will probably be called today.

The negro's affidavit states that about five years ago the physician was employed to remove an injured leg for the affiant and that Dr. Elrod agreed to perform the operation for \$50, twenty-five dollars of which was paid cash. The negro declared that he agreed to work out the remainder of the account, and that after working for over five years the doctor still claimed of him the account with interest amounting to \$100 at the first of the present year.

The negro claims that the physician had hired him out to other persons to work out the alleged debt, and that during the present year he had been hired out to a neighbor for \$52 for the entire year. He claims to have been beaten and maltreated and held and worked against his will.

Agriculture-1915  
Labor Conditions.





Richard H. Edmonds, Editor Manufacturers' Record, Baltimore, Md.

# SAYS FEW WOMEN OF AMERICAN BIRTH WORK AS LABORERS

Industrial Relations Commission Investigates Conditions on Plantations

*Advertiser 3-21-13*

TENANTS ARE IMPROVIDENT

Witness Says Land Tenantry  
In Southwest Has Been  
Wasteful

WOULD HELP MEXICANS

DALLAS, TEXAS, March 20.—Inquiry into agricultural conditions in the southwest was concluded here today after the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations had heard many witnesses. Testimony concerning the Taft ranch in Texas, regarding land tenants alleged to be victims of an expensive middle man system between the farmer and his market, were covered at the closing session.

The principal Taft industry considered was the Coleman-Fulton Pasturage Company of San Patricio County consisting of 6,000 acres under cultivation. Joseph H. Green, general manager for the Taft interests in Texas testified the company has twenty stockholders and the stock is worth about \$250 a share. Tenants and laborers on the farm, he said, are mostly Mexicans with a few Americans.

More than half the American farmers who have been on the place in the last twelve years, he said, had bought their own farms. Of the Mexicans two had bought farms. He said the company had notified all employees they would be discharged if they became candidates for any political office in the county.

Prof. Charles H. Alvord, superintendent of the farm, testified he had known only one American farmer permitting his wife to work in cotton fields. Mexican women and youths of both sexes worked in the field but seldom young Mexican children. He said Mexican laborers on the place receive 80 cents a day against \$1 a day last year. Mexican boys began earning the full wage at about 14. Most of the labor, he said, was Mexican.

"Why don't you employ other labor?" asked Chairman Walsh of the commission.

"There is not enough in the coun-

try," replied Professor Alvord.

**Would Secure Purchase.**

Judge M. M. Brooke of Dallas, a North Texas land owner, said for several years he had had a standing offer to become security for any of his tenants who would save \$1,000 and buy a farm, backing the tenant until the farm was paid for.

"I never got one man to accept the offer," he said. "Many have made the \$1,000 but they would blow it in. The great lack by tenants in this country is lack of economic sense. I have seen them plowing wearing patent leather shoes and red socks."

W. L. Lewis, president of the Texas Division Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union, said farm land values and rents had been rising while farmers' profits had remained stationary or declined.

Emilio Flores of San Antonio, secretary of the Mexican Protective Society, said:

"In our country, poor and wretched as they may be, Mexican farmers are happy, and this is better than their condition as tenants on Texas farms. I think the commission should acquaint Mexicans with the real facts about the suffering of Mexican people who come here as tenant farmers, and see that they don't come any more, rather than try to enact laws to protect them after they come. We advise them not to come because, as tenants, there is nothing they can expect. They have entirely different ways of living in their own country and they cannot become desirable citizens here, though I think it possible the laws could be changed so they might become desirable."

**Fertility Depleted.**

B. Youngblood, director of experiment stations for Texas A. and M. College, testified that land tenantry in the southwest has been wasteful of natural resources. The rate of depletion of fertility, he declared, many times caused more loss to land owners than they gained from rent. He thought the southwest is on the eve of agricultural improvement, but said up to the present "about the only difference between an Illinois farmer and a Texas farmer is that we have had the 'manana' in our agricultural system in the southwest."

Too many farmers in the southwest, he said, had been more interested in making a sharp horse trade than in farming. Only recently have farmers learned such knowledge as what varieties of corn will grow in the hot wind belt.

Mr. Flores blamed employment agencies for part of the Mexican troubles. He said he had known of a few instances when Mexicans were forced to remain on a place by guards armed with shotguns working out employment agency fees. These fees, he said, were usually \$1 per head, "delivered at destination," he thought, about 25 per cent. of the Mexicans coming to Texas remain as tenant farmers, another 25 per cent. drift into other occupations and the remaining 50 per cent. returns to Mexico.

He said in San Antonio hundreds of Mexicans are led to apply for naturalization papers with no idea they are doing so. They believe merely that they are "registering," he said, and they don't know what registering is.

J. J. Pastoriza, tax and land commissioner of Houston, recommended to the commission as a remedial legislation taxation on rental value of land alone, an exemption from taxes of products of the soil from labor.



PTI 3



methods used in France. A considerable number of economists in the United States had taken it up and accelerated public opinion in its favor. It has been endorsed by practically all the political parties.

It was known that a considerable element in Congress favored the creation of rural credits. Still the important proposition is not yet a law. It has to safely emerge from the conference between the Senate and the House members, and may encounter a rock before it gets to the President.

## "TENANT PROBLEM" SOLVED BY WOMAN

Striking Story of Remarkable  
Success of a Great Woman Farmer

*Advertiser*  
6-13-15

Some way or other everything we learn in this world we learn from woman.

Of course we never learn much about woman, but we are always learning from her.

From Mrs. G. H. Mathis, of Gadsden, we learn what co-operation really is, and what a wonderful success it can be made. Mrs. Mathis' success seems astonishing but she herself says that anybody else could do the same thing through energy, system, some common sense and a desire to help people by getting them to help themselves.

However, Mrs. Mathis is really a wonderful woman—a credit and an asset to the South. The farm that she bought ten miles above Anniston for \$8 per acre, she sold for \$40 an acre after having it for six years. You can figure the profit. This farm consisted of 1,000 acres and it had about twenty tenants on it. We asked Mrs. Mathis to tell the people of the South through this newspaper the splendid story of co-operative growing and selling. It is a simple, plain, matter-of-fact story, but it is an inspiration to thousands of people and to many landlords who are grappling with the "tenant problem." It is a story worth earning and worth putting into practice. Here it is, in Mrs. Mathis' own words:

"My aim is first to have all my tenants raise enough to feed themselves and their families and their livestock. Then we begin to plan for the 'money crops.' Of course the chief money crop is cotton, but on every farm there must be two acres of 'money land,'

besides that on which cotton is grown. These extra money crops are generally potatoes, planted in February and dug in June; beans, planted the first of April and gathered about the middle of June; and sweet corn, planted June 1st and gathered in August. This plan gives us money throughout the seasons—and money is something that most of us need most all of the time. This thing of just making money one or two months in the year is a poor business policy for a landlord, tenants or anybody else. Money must be coming in all the year around.

### Irish Potatoes First.

"First, we plant Irish potatoes in February, each man planting one or two acres. We all have the same kind of potatoes and plant the same week so that when selling time comes all of the potatoes will be matured at once, and all of the same variety. The potatoes are dug in June, and as they are dug they are sorted out and graded into two grades. All of the small, cut and bruised potatoes are kept for home use. The potatoes are freed from dirt, cleaned and made marketable. We pack them in croker sacks, and each man has his number—say there are twenty men on the farm and all of them numbered. On the outside of the sack we will place our farm mark—which is 'Grown at Iron Valley Farm.'

### Buyers Notified.

"By previous correspondence I have placed myself in touch with railroads or produce dealers, and notified them about how many acres of potatoes we will have from our farm. I give them notice when we are ready to market the potatoes, and specify a certain day when there will be freight cars at the station to handle our product. Usually there are two or three buyers who will come out to overlook the crop and bid on it. We assure them that all of the potatoes are all of one kind graded to two grades, absolutely sound, and free from cut potatoes or dirt, and in every way in good class condition. They inspect some of the sacks. Each man has his number on a piece of cardboard, and puts it in each sack, so that if there is anything wrong it can be traced back to the man who tried to put up the job.

### Go to the Highest Bidder.

"I tell the buyers after they have inspected the potatoes that they will be sold to the highest bidder. Each man writes out a bid on a slip of paper and puts it in a hat with his name on it—I take the hat and see who has bid the most, and he, of course, gets the crop. Our men and wagons are ready, and begin hauling the potatoes to the station, which is a mile away, and loading the cars. I go out and have a book, and as each sack is taken from the wagon it is weighed and I take down the weight—so then the man buying the potatoes and myself also check out how many sacks each man from the farm has.

### Money Paid Cash.

"When the car is loaded and the weights are all checked up, the buyer gives me a check for the entire amount. I deposit the check in the bank—and within a few days divide the money out to each man who has had potatoes in the car. I always hold back \$10 from each man to wait for assurances that there was nothing wrong with his part of the product. If no complaint comes within ten or twelve days, I pay him the remainder of his money. Now each man usually

### Ground Replanted.

"The day after the potatoes are dug that ground is planted to sweet corn, everybody planting the same variety; in August that corn is ready for the market. We gather the corn and ship it in a similar manner. From that we usually get \$30 per acre. The day the corn is gathered the stalks are cut and carried to the barn to dry for hay—the ground is ploughed, and fall turnips, kale, beets or some other fall vegetable is planted.

"Each renter also has a watermelon patch; big or little, as they choose—they usually take one acre and plant early or late, as they see fit. They generally market the watermelons as best they can. In all of this marketing I take one-third as my part for rent—furnishing one-third of the fertilizer used, and I take it in the money when the products are sold.

### How Beans are Canned.

"We plant snap beans for canning—all planting the same kind, the same week—so that everybody's beans will be ready for canning the same time. When my beans are ready theirs are ready. I notify them all by telephone or by word sent that we will all go to the canning shed on a certain day—say next Tuesday—to can beans. The women prepare a picnic dinner and gather the beans in cotton baskets and come to the canning shed, always bringing the babies and small children, who stand around in the way all day.

"Early we are at work preparing the beans for canning. The white women work at one end of the shed and the negroes work at the other end, and I work in between. We have never had a cross word, but make of it a regular picnic day—when we work and enjoy the day. Only now and then one small chap tumbles into the spring, and sometimes we have three and four standing out in the sun to dry. When dinner time comes the white women all go to one end of the grove and spread their dinner, and the negroes go to another part—I have my dinner on the ground with a generous supply donated from each of my co-laboring parties.

"The men all come to the canning shed for their dinner, and we make quite a merry picnic of the occasion. After dinner the men go to work and we get back to the canning. If one day does not suffice to can all of our beans, we take another day.

"Now the same method is used in canning kraut, canning fruit, and everything that needs to be canned on the farm. At the end of the year each family has about as much canned goods as they can place in a one-horse wagon, and probably more. All through the winter they use the canned goods and sell to the nearby section hands, or in the factory district to operators and their surplus.

### Pasture a Money Maker.

"In addition to this I have a good pasture and I require each man to place one sow in that pasture, from which he can grow \$100 worth of meat, which is equal in value to two bales of cotton—and still have the sow left. He can also place in the pasture one cow, which with her yearling calf, and the milk and butter, will be equal to \$50 more, or one bale of cotton. If he is a thrifty renter he is usually

glad to plow a brood mare and raise one colt, which is equal in value to two more bales of cotton.

"By that means the renter has received the value of five bales of cotton for which he did not work. The corn and the forage necessary to feed that stock is usually grown on new cleared ground which he can get or use one year for clearing without any rent to me. By that means I bring in a number of acres of new ground each year and the renter has something to work at during the winter months and his idle season. It pays him and it pays me. By this means of diversification and co-operation I have made farming pay and the renters have been able to pay for homes of their own. It has proven to be a paying proposition for us both. We sell the cotton in the usual way, and that is entirely a money crop. We can wait on the market as it may suit our convenience.

### Landlords and Tenants Prosper.

"Of course we have other things to bring us money. We have chickens—Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, guineas and turkeys. These are sold in Anniston. And we have our orchards, we have peaches, Japanese pecans, cherries and apples. Everybody helps in the picking and packing. We have made quite a lot of money also with strawberries. One of my daughters made \$300 an acre off of three acres of strawberries. Everything is co-operative and everybody works with the same plan in mind. Some folks call this scientific farming, but it is only the natural, simple, practical way to make a success of the greatest business that I know—farming. It makes money for me, it makes money for my tenants. It enables them to have bank accounts, educate their children and to have comforts in their homes. Some of them have been able to buy homes of their own and whenever I can, I help a tenant to get his own home. When he does that—whether he is white or black, he becomes a useful and active citizen. Good citizens are what Alabama needs above everything else."

## Eight White Farmers

Tried in U. S. Court

On Peonage Charges

*Continued on 3-30-15*

Peonage cases in which eight farmers are charged with illegally holding in custody a negro youth, were taken up in the federal district court Monday morning.

Franklin Huff, Charlie Adams, Harry Putnam, W. H. Goodin, Floyd Moody, Ed Putnam, Elijah Starr and Bass Huff are the men on trial. They reside in Spalding and Fayette counties. John Westmoreland, a negro youth, testified that he was held in a state of peonage and had been beaten and treated like a slave by the men on trial. He stated that last August Harry and Ed Putnam and Floyd Moody seized him on a public road and carried him off in an automobile. They met the other men indicated, and all gave him a beating, he said. Later he was placed on a farm, he stated, and made to work.

The charge is denied by all the defendants.

Many witnesses have been summoned, and the trial may last through the week.



# Had the South Never Raised a Bale of Cotton It Would Be Vastly Richer and More Populous Than It Is, in the Opinion of an Authority.

8/26/15

By RICHARD H. EDMONDS,  
Editor Manufacturers' Record, Baltimore.



WHEN a New England man living in the South invented the cotton gin he probably did more to shape the destiny of the South than any other man who ever lived.

Prior to the invention of the cotton gin the South was giving its attention largely to industrial activities. Up to 1810 it led New England in manufacturing. Its foremost men in the early days

prior to and after the Revolution were in very many cases men of technical training. Washington was a civil engineer, and his father a miner and shipper of iron ore. Jefferson owned iron works, and in those early days the iron industry was an important factor in the life of a large portion of the South.

In his "History of Iron in All Ages" James M. Swank, in referring to the establishment of many furnaces and bloomeries throughout the then settled portions of the South, said:—

"The people who built these furnaces and bloomeries were not only bold and enterprising, but appear to have been born with a genius for making iron. Wherever they went they seem to have searched for iron ore, and, having found it, their small charcoal furnaces and bloomeries soon followed. No States in the Union have shown in their early history more intelligent appreciation of the value of an iron industry than North Carolina and Tennessee, and none have been more prompt to establish it. \* \* \* It is a curious fact that daring men who pushed their way into the wilds of Western Carolina and Eastern Tennessee in the last century, and who set up their small furnaces and bloomeries when forts yet took the place of hamlets, founded an iron industry which still retains many of the primitive features that at first characterized it."

As early as 1716 Governor Spotswood, of Virginia, established several iron making enterprises. In 1727 the General Assembly of that State passed "an act for encouraging adventurers in iron works." Colonel William Byrd, writing in 1732 of the many iron enterprises that had been started in Virginia, refers in one case to the iron development near Fredericksburg, and adds:—

"Mr. Washington raises the ore and carts it thither

for twenty shillings the ton of iron that it yields. \* \* \* Besides Mr. Washington and Mr. England, there are several other persons in England concerned in these works. Matters are very well managed there, and no expense is spared to make them profitable."

In another place Swank, referring to increased activity of iron interests in Virginia, says:—

"About 1790 the iron history of Virginia took a fresh start, as did many other manufactures of the State. \* \* \* No State in the Union gave more attention to domestic manufactures after the close of the Revolution than did Virginia. Richmond, Lynchburg, Staunton, Winchester and some other places became noted for the extent and variety of their manufactures."

In South Carolina iron works were built in 1773, and at the beginning of the Revolution the State offered liberal premiums to those who would establish iron works, and a number of furnaces and rolling mills and nail mills were established. During the Revolutionary War William Hill, father of General D. H. Hill, of the Confederate army, operated a forge and blast furnace in that State. These works were burned by Lord Cornwallis in his advance from upper South Carolina to North Carolina, and some small iron guns made in these works to aid in the Revolution were captured by Cornwallis and destroyed. Later on both North and South Carolina gave very considerable attention to iron making, as to other lines of industry.

## Trend of Industrial Thought Changed by Gin Invention.

The trend of Southern thought to industrial activities, as indicated in these facts, typical of many that could be given, was changed largely by the invention of the cotton gin. In those days the price of cotton was so high and the profit in its production so great that the energy and capital of the South were soon concentrated upon cotton growing. In the early days of the cotton industry prices ranged from fourteen or fifteen cents to forty cents a pound, yielding unusual profits. Under such conditions the South for several decades almost forgot its industrial activities and centered its thought and life upon cotton. In order to grow more cotton, to meet the world's demand, it sought to increase the number of slaves and open up more land. This condition brought about a marked movement of population from the upper Southern States toward Alabama and Mississippi, in order to enlarge the cotton area and get the benefit of their virgin soils, increasing the demand for still more slaves with which

to cultivate still more cotton land.

Thus the cotton gin fastened cotton upon the South, and cotton, with its alluring profits in the early days, was largely responsible for fastening slavery, with all its train of evils, more firmly upon this section.

The creation of the cotton growing industry during the first sixty years of the last century is probably the greatest business achievement made by any section of any country during that time. It represented a much larger investment of capital than the entire manufacturing business of New England. It had reached a point in international affairs where it largely dominated the commerce, the finance and to a considerable extent the politics of this country and of Great Britain. The people of the South had learned to think cotton and measure all of their business activities by the cotton boll and bale.

New England's manufacturing interests in those days were based almost wholly upon domestic trade; the South's cotton business was international in its importance and scope, and it brought the business men of the South in intimate touch with all the financial and manufacturing interests of Europe.

## Cotton Enchains Entire Southland.

As cotton chained slavery to the South, so cotton has chained the South to the slavery of thinking and acting in terms of cotton.

In the early forties, when overproduction brought about a rapid decline in the price of cotton, the average New York middling price for 1844-45 being 5.63c, there was a very quick turn of the South back to industrial activities. Stimulated by the new spirit created by the development of railroads, and turning from cotton by reason of low prices, the South handicapped as it was by slavery, promptly turned its thought to industrial pursuits. In the decade 1850 to 1860 the South made remarkable progress in the revival of its manufacturing interests, but, of course, during the fifty years in which the South had concentrated its thought upon cotton New England had concentrated its activities upon manufactures. It had in this way created such extensive manufacturing interests that the South was far in the rear in industrial pursuits. The South did, however, during the decade of 1850 to 1860 throw tremendous energy into the discussion of industrial work and into the actual development of manufacturing and railroad interests. But the war came, and when in 1865 the long, gray line, which was then only a shell, faded away the South was utterly and apparently hopelessly bankrupt. Its labor system had been completely changed and those who as slaves had been directed by master minds in their farm work now suddenly found themselves left to their own initiative. They had never learned to think for themselves. They had always depended upon their owners to think for them. They had been directed what to do and how to do it. They knew that when they left the field they had nothing else to think about, for a home, food and clothes were provided for them.

## Industrial Chaos After War.

If to-day a great machine shop employing a thousand men working under the control of a few foremen and superintendents were suddenly broken up and every man was told to go out and start a little



machine shop for himself the local confusion would not be as great relatively as that which confronted the agriculture of the whole South by reason of the change from slave to free labor and the conditions under which the changes were made. The negro had neither the experience nor the ability to operate for himself which would be found at least among some of the thousand mechanics suddenly turned loose and told to start a thousand small machine shops. Nevertheless, there was an abundance of land available, and cotton factors and money lenders were ready to aid the negroes as well as others for a profit, and a very big one at that, in renting a few acres on which to raise cotton, "grubstaking" them until the cotton was picked. The land owners of the South also were compelled, by reason of their poverty following the war, likewise to put themselves in the hands of the money lenders, who helped them to make a crop by advancing money and taking a mortgage on the crop in advance of the ploughing of the land in which it was to be planted.

Prior to the war the Central South had been very largely self-sustaining in the production of foodstuffs. The plantation was a well rounded institution. It raised its corn and hogs and to a considerable extent made its cotton a surplus crop. Some of the slaves were taught carpentering, some blacksmithing and some were given other trades, so that most of the work needed on a plantation could be done without calling on outside help.

**Indeed the well-rounded plantation of earlier days was the forerunner of the big industrial enterprise of to-day which seeks to control all of its raw materials; such, for instance, as in iron and steel, where the large concerns own their iron ore, their limestone, their coking coal and, in some cases, the railroads which assemble these raw materials out of which to turn the finished product.**

The complete breaking up of the whole industrial system of the day, the abandonment of every big shop, the immediate forcing back of every workman into mining his own ore, making his own bit of pig iron or establishing his own machine shop would scarcely be a greater revolution than that which faced the agricultural South in 1865.

#### *Cotton Money Advanced Plentifully.*

Under the conditions then prevailing money lenders advanced against cotton only. They would not advance a dollar against grain or livestock. There were two reasons for this. Cotton was always salable anywhere, and the money lender had in cotton a gilt edge security which he could cash in with less trouble than anything else produced on the farm. He was not in a position generally to handle the sale of foodstuffs, but the world was hungry for all the cotton he could tempt the cotton grower to produce by his advances upon it. Moreover, a very large percentage of the money lenders were cotton factors or commission merchants, who had a double reason for following this policy. If they could keep the planter, large or small, from growing his own foodstuffs, they would have the profit of selling to him all that he required for the maintenance of his family and the

feeding of his live stock. They thus "grub staked" the planter by selling to him at an exorbitant figure all foodstuffs for man and beast, his agricultural implements and the mules with which he worked the land. They had a mortgage on the cotton before it was planted, and, holding this over the grower, he was compelled to buy from them at their prices and on their terms.

It was estimated that for many years after the war the average cost to the small cotton grower who had to buy on credit in this way was more than seventy-five per cent higher than he could have obtained the same things for if he had been able to buy for cash. And even now the difference is great enough to keep the indifferent farmer forever poor.

**That the South ever survived such a system and finally pulled itself together and worked out of it is an amazing tribute to the inherent agricultural potentialities of this section.**

It is true that the small tenant farmers, of whom there are about one million, are still handicapped by such conditions. Their crops are very largely made on advances from the land owner, the local banker or the local merchant. For more than fifty years they have followed this system, until it has seemed almost impossible to break the tenant farmers away from the system of raising all cotton and buying all of their foodstuffs.

#### *Small Farmer Still Handicapped.*

The traveller through the South away from the railway lines can see thousands of small tenant houses, some occupied by whites and some by blacks, without a vestige of garden; not a vegetable in sight, not a chicken or a pig on the place. The cotton crop as raised by these people requires less thought, less brain work and less bodily work than any other important crop produced. And so this element of the South, which has been the heaviest burden that it has had to carry—except the demagogic politician, of which there is a perennial crop—keeps on raising cotton and buying its food supplies. The more intelligent planters, as differentiated from this system of the poorer tenants, who to a large extent are of the more illiterate element, are among the best farmers in the land. They raise to a very considerable extent, as the old South did, their food supplies, and they are increasing their production of live stock as well as of grains and grasses. They know the farming business as well as the most intelligent Western farmer.

The more intelligent planters are the ones who are redeeming the agricultural interests of the South from the curse of "all cotton." They are the ones who are diversifying its agricultural interests, who are giving increased attention to grains and grasses and cattle raising and food growing. They are the ones who are building better homes, who are leaders in many activities looking to material and educational betterment of their country.

#### *Example Set by Intelligent Planters.*

Sooner or later their example will be followed by many of the poorer tenant farmers. The change is already in evidence, though it has necessarily been slow. When, however, we consider the awful wreck and ruin following four years of war, the utter de-

struction of all the wealth of the South, the revolution in its labor system and the necessity of resuming farming burdened with these conditions and with the exorbitant rates for money and for goods purchased or raised, the world ought not to be surprised at what to some seems slow progress in the diversification of agriculture.

**If Germany should maintain the present war for four years, and if the Allies should overrun that country from end to end, as the Union armies did the South, and if the British navy should completely blockade all Germany from the outside world, as the South was shut off by the blockade of its whole coast, the condition of Germany at the end would not be nearly so disastrously bad as was that of the South.**

We should also remember that by reason of the demoralization after the war about 5,000,000 whites emigrated between 1865 and 1900 from the Central South to the North, the West, the Pacific coast and Texas, thus draining that section of hundreds of thousands of its most intelligent and progressive young men from the farms and the villages.

When these facts are taken into account the South is entitled to boundless praise for what it has wrought.

**Had the South never raised a bale of cotton it would, I am satisfied, be vastly richer and more populous than it is.**

Without cotton the South would not have had the same inducement to extend slavery, and slavery enchained the white man's potentialities far more than it enchained the slave.

Without cotton and the extension of slavery developed by cotton the South would have concentrated its energies upon industrial activities, and this section would long ago have become one of the foremost regions of the world in manufacturing development.

#### *Well Rounded Agricultural Growth.*

Without cotton the South would have carried out a well rounded agricultural growth which would have made it a great grain and livestock region, in this respect rivalling, if not surpassing, the West. That the South is admirably adapted for livestock raising, that hogs and cattle can be produced in this section at a lower cost and to greater profit than in the West, is now almost universally admitted, and the national government is looking forward to the time when the South will become the great beef producing section of the country.

Without cotton all of these things would have been achieved long before the war.

**And had this been done, to an agricultural prosperity equal to that of the West, made possible by grains and grasses and cattle, the South would have made this the manufacturing empire of the world.**

It is, I believe, universally accepted that there is

(See next Card)



# A Rural Credits System For The American Farmer

I believe that it will be admitted without argument that upon the fruits of agriculture the very existence of our Nation entirely depends.

It would therefore seem to have been the part of wisdom for the Government, or the Legislature of the various States of this, our government, to have undertaken the establishment of some form of financial institution which would adequately provide for the needs of the farmer in order to properly develop and operate his property.

When one considers the stupendous development which has obtained in the domain of railway transportation, mines and manufactures and all forms of industrial operation, and then regards the condition of the farmer and the entire absence of any well directed or scientific methods by which his interests can be protected and his industry developed to its highest point of efficiency, one is filled with amazement with the lack of foresight, the apparent ignorance on the part of the financial experts, as to the proper method by which to take care of the farmer's interests.

The existing financial institutions of this country are necessarily so restricted by law for the protection of their depositors and the parties interested in the maintenance and preservation of their business, that it is impossible for the farmer to be advantaged by their conveniences, and for the following reasons:

## Short-Time Loans

The farmer must await the slow processes of nature before he reaps the result of his labor, and therefore a short time loan is of no particular advantage to him; rather the reverse, as it only constitutes a source of worry and anxiety to be compelled to repay his loan in the course of four, six, or twelve months.

The national or state banks or trust companies are designed apparently for the convenience of the merchants and the manufacturers who are able to turn their goods over in a short space of time and thus secure the money to repay their loans within the time usually required by banking institutions of the character named.

Not so with the farmer. If he wishes to build a silo, should he be obliged to repay the money borrowed for that purpose before he has had the real benefit and use of the silo? No! The cost of such a permanent improvement should be amortized over a long period of years, contemporary with the probable existence of the silo—say twenty or thirty years; and the same should be true as to all permanent improvements logically chargeable to capital account; or, in other words, the permanent investment of the farmer in his property.

## Private Money Lender

As the existing banking institutions above mentioned are obliged to keep their assets in easily convertible

or liquid form in order that they may meet the demands of their depositors whenever made, their loans are necessarily made on short term paper, which the farmer does not want unless he is obliged to accept it as the only alternative. As a consequence the farmer has to a large degree been obliged to depend upon the tender mercies of the money lender—the private money lender, I mean—who naturally has exacted the ultimate amount of tribute for the use of his money "which the traffic would bear." I do not know that I blame these gentlemen who have money to loan for getting all they can. They lay no claim to being a benevolent institution, and "business is business," they say.

## Decrease Of Farm Owners

To the farmers of the country this question is filled with tragic import. The high cost of money has resulted in the gradual decrease of farm owners and the constant and astounding increase of farm tenants. The farmer, finding himself unable to meet pay in full the loan, when due, which he has made against his farm property, is obliged to submit to the tragic consequences of foreclosure, and to find himself often a hired laborer upon the farm upon which perhaps he once trod as owner.

According to the statistics gathered by the United States Government the average cost of money to the farmers of the United States closely approximates 8 per cent. The Government investigation also shows that the farmer after deducting the cost of his own living, nets about 3 per cent on his farm investment, a figure so low as to be regarded with indifference and contempt by the ordinary investor.

## Why High Rate?

It is significant that the agricultural population of this country amounts to about twelve million farmers, who are at the present time carrying loans aggregating over six billions of dollars, based upon properties, the value of which is in excess of forty-one billions of dollars. Upon these loans there is being paid interest to the aggregate amount of approximately five hundred million. The saving of 3 per cent in interest would amount to one hundred and fifty million. Four per cent, two hundred millions; which represents the difference between comfort, or affluence, even, and poverty. Why should the farmer who possesses in his farm land the finest security in the world, be obliged to pay a higher rate of interest than the merchant, the manufacturer, the railroad man, or any other form of business man?

## Lack Of Efficiency

One of the principal contributory causes to the high cost of living of which the whole nation has but recently complained, is the high cost of money to the farmers. In this great country which God has given us—wonderful in its natural resources—we have been wasteful, improvident, and often indifferent as to the future. We have neither regarded or imitated the methods of thrift and economical development which European nations

have afforded us.

With infinitely greater natural resources and advantages, we make a far less creditable showing as regards our agricultural development than do the people of Germany, Austria, France or many other European nations. The size of the average German farm is seven acres in extent, and yet the German farmer will operate his farm with such efficiency as to provide his own living and that of his family, and at the same time lay aside a substantial bank account.

## German Efficiency

To the American farmer such an area of land would be a joke. He generally has as much as that in his immediate residence tract, which he oftentimes lays out with a prodigal disregard of land value and possible output.

But, you ask, how can the German farmer make a living on such a small area? First, because he is absolutely efficient. Not a corner of his land is wasted. But, more important of all, it is because he is able to obtain money at four or four and a half per cent on long terms by a system of rural credits, which, in Germany, is known as the land-schaften, or land societies. Scores of these land-schaften exist in the German Empire. Their methods of operation, briefly stated is as follows:

## German Land Societies

Against the duly appraised value of the farmer's property the loan of a certain amount is authorized by an official or executive board appointed for that purpose. Thereupon bonds of small denominations, to the amount of the loan, are duly executed and turned over to the farmer who is obliged to go out and sell them among his friends and acquaintances; the proceeds of which he immediately devotes to the purposes for which the loan was obtained. These bonds are standardized, have a perfectly well known market value, and usually sell as high as Government bonds. In cases of financial distress and of war, such as is now transpiring, these land-schaften bonds sell several points higher than the Government bonds. Of this type of bonds there are now outstanding in Germany approximately one billion dollars in amount.

## Best Method For Us

This method, however, would not do in the United States. Careful consideration of the problems of the farmer in this country, and the conditions which surround the issuance and disposition of bonds, of this character, have led the best judges of this sort of financial operation to the conclusion that the best financial method for the farmers of this country to pursue is to mobilize their own credit in the form of associations of farmers limited to states, or groups of states contiguous to one another, each farmer subscribing to the number of shares that his farm operations and their importance justify; thus creating in the aggregate an amount of capital sufficient to start business operations along these lines and begin the loaning of money to the members of said association.

Against the mortgages thus acquired as security for the loan which have been made, bonds to be issued and sold in the money markets of the country, Conservative private investors, banking institutions, and life insurance or fire insurance companies would be the most logical customers for such bonds, since the first requisite of

their investment of surplus funds is absolute security: second,—income.

## Six Per Cent Maximum

If the loans of such character as I have indicated are made with due care and conservatism, and the rate of interest on the bonds issued against the mortgages taken in as security for the loans is attractive, there will be no difficulty in finding a liberal market for all such bonds as may be issued.

For the time being five per cent is probably as low a rate of interest as we could successfully charge and this rate of interest would prevail only in such states as have reached the highest point of farm development, such as Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. It should never be necessary, however, to charge more than six per cent in any of the states of our country, and six per cent bonds issued against mortgages in these states, requiring this rate of interest would find a ready sale in any money market in this country.

## Long-Time Payments

As the legal rate of interest in this and other Southern States is 8 per cent, 6 per cent should certainly prove attractive to the farmer, particularly since the loan may be amortized or repaid in small units, annually, over a long period of years,—say, twenty to fifty years.

This means that when the farmer borrows money he retains the use and

of this money for as long as he wishes it, having at all times the privilege of repaying all or any part of his loan, unpaid, at any time, upon sixty days notice to the Association.

## Reverse Of Insurance

The amortization method of loaning money is really based upon the principle of life insurance reversed. In life insurance the policy holder pays a fixed annual premium for twenty years at the end of which time he receives a thousand dollars. In the case of the Rural Credit Association, however, the borrower obtains his loan now, repaying the same by an annual amortization payment which consists of two elements; first, the interest at the rate of five or six per cent, as the case may be; and second, the remainder going into a reserve or sinking-fund, upon which three and a half per cent compound interest is allowed, which liquidates the loan within the period named.

The amortization tables governing the annual payment in question, for the payment of interest and liquidation of the loan, are determined with the same degree of exactitude as the premiums of a life insurance policy, and may not be varied either up or down in order to effect the desired result. Incredible as it may seem, it is, nevertheless, a fact, that this amortization method of borrowing is more economical to the borrower than if he were able to obtain from a bank or individual a loan of a similar length of time at the same rate of straight interest, notwithstanding the fact, that, in the Rural Credit Association the borrower is required to subscribe for one more share of stock according to the number of thousand of dollars of credit he desires to obtain.

## Only Means Possible

Assuming, then, the successful organization and establishment of such an association as I am referring to, these are some of the advantages accruing to the members thereof, which conclusively establishes the fact that it is the only method under heaven given among men whereby the farmer may be saved from the serfdom of high cost money under which he is now so laboriously and unsuccessfully operating.

ing to the members thereof, which conclusively establishes the fact that it is the only method under heaven given among men whereby the farmer may be saved from the serfdom of high cost money under which he is now so laboriously and unsuccessfully operating.

FIRST, the right and privilege to obtain money when he wants it;

SECOND, the ability to obtain the money desired at a rate of interest lower than that obtainable under any other method or from any other institution or individual;

THIRD, the ability to obtain money for as long as one wishes it under an arrangement for the payment thereof, which is the most convenient known to men;

FOURTH, the right of participation in all the profits of the enterprise, which in every instance so far known in the history of the Rural Credit Associations of the world is unusually important.

## Our Government Behind.

In the matter of rural credits our government has been 150 years behind the various administrations in office, realizing the importance of this subject have been conducting extensive and expensive investigations of the subject of Rural Credits abroad, with the result that we have now in operation a concrete example, in practical operating and successful form, of this method of loaning money.

First and foremost of these institutions is the Kentucky Rural Credit Association, of which Governor James B. McCreary, of that State is the President. This institution has just closed its first year with a showing of financial condition and result to its members that is sufficient to cause the utmost gratification in the hearts of all farmers and leads to the belief that at an early date all of the farmers of the United States will be adequately provided with the means by which to capitalize their operations and relieve themselves of the worry, anxiety and frequently tragic consequences of excessively high money which they have endured during the past.



## Conditions and Improvement.

# Alabama Corn Club Boys Out To Break Their Own Records

Well, boys, you've got some smashing records to beat.

But we believe the Corn Club boys of Alabama are the kind that beat their own records.

If you are the boys who will keep on beating your records you will amount to a whole lot in this world. Some people are always trying to beat the record of somebody else. That's a false ideal. If we beat our own record we will be making progress all the time. We might beat the record of the other fellow and then not do very much. The boy who goes into life to beat his own record day by day and week by week will always be a winner.

The Corn Club boys of Alabama are record beaters. Their records in corn production, shown herewith, would have amazed the world a few years ago. More than 100 bushels of corn on an acre? Impossible!

But it is possible—it has been easy for some of the boys. Then one or two more boys went not only over 100 but 200 bushels to the acre! That was marvelous sure enough.

But still this is not the limit. In fact, nobody can tell just what is the limit of an acre of ground. We suspect that it hardly has any limit. Our prediction is that these boys of Alabama are out to smash records with marvelous yields. Well, here are your records, boys. Beat them, we believe you will:

Record of Boys' Corn Club School Members.		
Name of Boy.	Yield.	Profit.
<b>Baldwin.</b>		
John Burt Watts, Bay Minette	80.87	\$67.55
Hughey Wright, Loxley	61.91	30.21
Total	142.78	97.76
Average	71.39	48.88
<b>Barbour.</b>		
J. Tom Ross, Chlo.	101.38	74.31
Hazy Wilkinson, Blue Springs, Route 1	105.00	78.35
Total	206.38	152.66
Average	103.19	76.83
<b>Bibb.</b>		
Wyman Cleveland, Lawley, Route 3	106.99	83.49
Tom Farrington, Briarfield, Route 1	107.33	78.31
Total	214.32	161.80
Average	107.16	80.90
<b>Blount.</b>		
Fred Fulenwider, Oneonta, Route 2	55.12	31.87
Lawrence A. Miller, Walnut Grove, R. 2	60.00	35.75
Total	115.12	67.62
Average	57.56	33.81
<b>Bullock.</b>		
Stanley Boswell, Inverness, Route 1	100.50	67.27
S. D. Hixon, Perote	104.38	63.58
W. S. Stanaland	101.00	73.00
Total	305.88	203.85
Average	101.96	67.95
<b>Butler.</b>		
Delma McClure, Garland	64.00	35.15
Total	64.00	35.15
Average	64.00	35.15
<b>Calhoun.</b>		

Charlie Boyle, Anniston, Route 1	118.99	76.69
Lee Moore, Anniston, Route 1	50.00	26.10
Total	168.99	102.79
Average	84.49	51.39
<b>Chambers.</b>		
Herbert Bishop, Wadley, Route 3	102.90	90.30
Dorson Hall, Wadley, Route 3	133.75	109.22
Jim Ruffin, West Point, Ga., Route 5	82.90	48.35
Wm. H. Ruffin, West Point, Ga., Route 5	119.70	114.48
J. W. Wright, West Point, Ga., Route 4	71.85	22.17
Total	511.10	384.62
Average	102.25	76.92
<b>Cherokee.</b>		
Alex Watt, Jamestown, Route No. 1	54.36	32.61
Total	54.36	32.61
Average	54.36	32.61
<b>Chilton.</b>		
J. D. Gentry, Clanton, Route No. 4	99.77	81.75
Denson Williams, Clanton, Route No. 3	75.68	36.78
Total	175.45	118.53
Average	87.72	59.10
<b>Choctaw.</b>		
Elbert Carroll, Souwilpa	56.26	29.06
Total	56.26	29.06
Average	56.26	29.06
<b>Clarke.</b>		
Francis Cunningham, Grove Hill	71.50	50.55
<b>Clay.</b>		
Luther C. Hachen, Goodwater, Route 2	117.00	105.30
Total	117.00	105.30
Average	117.00	105.30
<b>Cleburne.</b>		
Lebus Casey, Hopewell, Route No. 1	98.00	77.10
Harbon Thrower, Heflin, Route 3	164.75	139.80
Total	262.75	216.90
Average	131.38	108.45
<b>Coffee.</b>		
Billie Gilmore, Chancellor, Route 1	108.67	68.00
Marvin Sharpless, Elba, Route No. 2	37.00	21.15
Total	145.67	89.15
Average	72.83	44.58
<b>Colbert.</b>		
Thomas Elledge, Tusculumbia	69.00	.....
Homer Hill, Allsboro	63.32	39.42
Total	132.32	.....
Average	66.16	39.42
<b>Conecuh.</b>		
I. B. Broxton, Castleberry, Route 1	24.00	16.80
Belve Reed, Castleberry, Route 3	40.42	.....
Total	64.42	.....
Average	32.21	.....
<b>Coosa.</b>		
Maurice Catchings, Equality, Route 1	48.00	22.25
Adlai Murchison, Equality, Route 1	109.00	66.50
Total	157.00	88.75
Average	78.50	44.37
<b>Covington.</b>		
Roy Crawford, Andalusia, Route 5	149.50	93.98
Total	149.50	93.98
Average	149.50	93.98
<b>Crenshaw.</b>		
Lonzo Elmore, Searight, Route No. 2	58.96	40.46

John Gipson, Rutledge	79.55	45.20
E. J. Patterson, Luverne, Route 2	84.75	48.52
Total	223.26	134.18
Average	74.42	44.73
<b>Cullman.</b>		
Marvin Kelley, Cullman, Route 3	63.25	33.25
Claud Metz, Cullman	53.66	23.69
Total	116.91	56.94
Average	58.45	28.97
<b>Dale.</b>		
Paul Hutto, Ariton, Route No. 3	98.40	71.42
Dewey Parrish, Bellwood	48.50	25.55
Total	146.90	96.97
Average	73.45	48.49
<b>Dallas.</b>		
Murrow Burns, Cosby, Ruined by drouth.	.....	.....
<b>DeKalb.</b>		
Bill Crump, Albertville, Route No. 1	67.51	45.88
Archie Reed, Collinsville, Route 2	66.00	43.25
Total	133.51	89.13
Average	66.76	44.56
<b>Elmore.</b>		
Cecil Adams, Eclectic, Route No. 2	239.39	210.54
Total	239.39	210.54
Average	239.39	210.54
<b>Escambia.</b>		
Julian Agee, Poarch	35.70	10.50
John Gibbons, Brewton	78.50	63.20
Milton Lowery, Canoe	43.25	43.25
Total	157.45	116.95
Average	52.48	35.65
<b>Etowah.</b>		
Louie Holmes, Murrycross, Route 2	33.61	3.69
Charley Lancaster, Gadsden, Route 1	126.00	110.00
Judson Smith, Gadsden, Route 3	84.00	67.50
Total	243.64	181.19
Average	81.21	60.30
<b>Franklin.</b>		
Clarence McMurray, Red Bay	72.18	61.85
Dawson Hovater, Russellville, Route 3	59.82	29.22
Total	132.00	91.07
Average	66.00	45.54
<b>Geneva.</b>		
Loyd Pellum, Slocumb, Route No. 1	62.00	33.35
Average	62.00	33.35
<b>Greene.</b>		
Robert Gandy, Clinton, Route No. 1	51.50	26.75
Total	51.50	26.75
Average	51.50	26.75
<b>Lauderdale.</b>		
Duncan Killen, Killen, Route No. 2	85.00	57.50
Total	85.00	57.50
Average	85.00	57.50
<b>Lee.</b>		
Tiry Calhoun, Notasulga, Route 3	50.00	25.45
<b>Limestone.</b>		
George Bates, Elkmont, Route 2	80.00	47.20
Total	80.00	47.20
Average	80.00	47.20
<b>Macon.</b>		
Walter Jackson, Notasulga, Route 1	70.12	64.53
Total	70.12	64.53
Average	70.12	64.53
<b>Madison.</b>		
Clington Bingham, New Market	82.78	39.35
Louie Collier, Brownsboro, Route 1	62.30	26.61
Lynn Dupree, Huntsville, Route 3	72.33	44.20
Total	217.41	110.16
Average	72.47	36.72
<b>Marengo.</b>		
Fred Nichols, Nicholsville	75.90	61.81

Joe Will Scogin, Linden	74.69	49.05
Total	150.59	110.40
Average	75.29	55.20
<b>Marion.</b>		
Lynch Couch, Winfield, Route No. 1	68.90	36.53
Total	68.90	36.53
Average	68.90	36.53
<b>Marshall.</b>		
Joe Floyd, Albertville, Chester Walley, Gunterville	60.00	33.15
Total	105.21	54.28
Average	105.21	54.28
<b>Mobile.</b>		
L. H. Burnett, Chunchula	50.00	23.50
H. Allen Dew, Irvington	58.69	18.72
Mal Rodgers, Chunchula	65.00	28.00
Total	173.69	70.22
Average	57.89	23.40
<b>Monroe.</b>		
W. R. Agee, Perdue Hill	57.14	28.49
Charles N. Jackson, Tunnel Springs	42.40	8.70
Total	99.54	37.19
Average	49.77	18.59
<b>Montgomery.</b>		
Hobson Kennedy, Montgomery, R. 4	90.50	53.90
Alto McNeill, Pine Level, Route 1	55.50	37.27
John A. Rhodes, Pine Level	56.00	36.79
James C. Sansom, Sellers, Route 1	96.00	70.20
Willie B. Samson, Sellers, Route 1	85.00	59.60
Arthford Stough, La-Pine	64.50	32.86
James R. Sullivan, Grady, Route 2	54.50	27.05
Total	502.00	317.67
Average	71.71	45.38
<b>Morgan.</b>		
Willie Parker, Hart-selle, Route 1	47.42	10.00
Total	47.42	10.00
Average	47.42	10.00
<b>Perry.</b>		
Ernest Mitchell, Sprott, Route 2	77.35	35.33
Total	77.35	35.33
Average	77.35	35.33
<b>Pickens.</b>		
Henry Hitt, Gordo, Route No. 3	90.25	60.08
Total	90.25	60.08
Average	90.25	60.08
<b>Randolph.</b>		
Clyat Fincher, Wedowee, Route 2	82.00	45.65
Carl McCarey, Lamar, Route No. 2	95.60	37.10
Uless Stone, Malone, Route No. 2	127.60	106.20
Total	305.20	188.95
Average	101.73	62.98
<b>Russell.</b>		
Frank Huguley, Crawford, Route 1	115.00	94.28
Total	115.00	94.28
Average	115.00	94.28
<b>St. Clair.</b>		
Birge Smith, Steele, Route No. 1	119.27	98.77
Total	119.27	98.77
Average	119.27	98.77
<b>Sumter.</b>		
James L. Elliott, Emelle	141.41	81.41
Total	141.41	81.41
Average	141.41	81.41
<b>Talladega.</b>		
Oliver Boaz, Childersburg, Route 1	77.21	54.40
Wallace Boaz, Childersburg, Route 1	79.58	56.65
Lewis Hammons, Syca-more, Route 1	71.00	47.30
Curtis Harkins, Sylacauga, Route 2	75.10	57.18
A. W. Hubbard, Ren-froe, Route 1	66.40	41.82
Enoch Jones, Talla-	.....	.....

dega, Route 4	50.00	31.50
Harvey Kille, Sylacauga	86.00	50.05
Terry Machen, Syca-more	176.75	132.17
Joe Morris, Talladega, Route No. 2	54.50	33.65
Pat Searcy, Alpine, Route No. 2	67.00	43.60
Jesse Vardaman, Childersburg, Route 1	52.00	23.85
Marvin Wesson, Childersburg, Route 1	108.40	76.50
Total	963.94	648.67
Average	80.33	54.05
<b>Tallapoosa.</b>		
Walker Lee Dunson, Alex. City, R. 6	232.00	185.60
Total	232.00	185.60
Average	232.00	185.60
<b>Tuscaloosa.</b>		
Frank Dockery, North-port, Route 2	60.66	49.85
Penn McGee, Tuscaloosa, Route 2	52.75	37.60
Total	113.41	87.45
Average	66.70	43.75
<b>Washington.</b>		
Henry Ganus, Healing Springs	43.00	5.05
Nathan Mills	62.70	14.40
Total	105.70	19.45
Average	52.85	9.72
<b>Wilcox.</b>		
Whitfield Rodgers, Sunny South	82.50	63.05
Total	82.50	63.05
Average	82.50	63.05
<b>Winston.</b>		
Howard Lindley, Nathan	74.46	46.95
Total	74.46	46.95
Average	74.46	46.95
Grand total	8,862.73	5,820.71
Grand average	83.61	54.91

## BUY A PIG MOVEMENT HAS BEEN WELL LAUNCHED

Nearly 500 Persons Visit Saraland in Mobile County to Hear

Special to The Advertiser.  
MOBILE, ALA., Dec. 20.—Nearly 500 persons went to Saraland Friday afternoon by special train and automobiles to inspect the ranch of the Mobile Hog Company, recently established. Hot pork sausage and spare rib sandwiches were served, with coffee, on the arrival of the special train which left Mobile via the Southern Railway at 1 p. m.

Native hogs, guaranteed genuine "razor-backs," were seen in numbers about the station when the visitors reached the Saraland station. In striking contrast were the Berkshires and Duroc Jerseys that greeted them from the inside of the company's enclosure.

Most of the grade and blooded hogs shown at the ranch were grown in Mobile County by A. J. Schillinger of Semmes, and in Baldwin County by F. C. Hall, Duroc breeder, of Bay Minette.

The "buy a pig" movement has been well launched. Many of the new arrivals in Mobile, as well as local business men, were on the trip and it was announced that the City Bank and Trust Company had authorized the sale of its "buy a bale" cotton, several bales, and the purchase of "buy a pig" with the proceeds.

At Saraland, just before the train left for Mobile, I. C. Irvine told the visitors about the pig prospects and introduced Demonstrator Maloney, who explained the Government's methods of immunizing hogs so that they are practically free from danger of cholera. Postmaster J. Blocker Thornton was introduced, and predicted great



things as a result of the campaign for more and better hogs and livestock.

W. E. Minton of St. Louis, who is associated with Charles Wehn of Johnstown, Pa., in placing 600 brood sows on the 8,000 acres of land leased by the Mobile Hog Company, and thus going into the hog business, wholesale, made a short talk about the value and importance of the hog industry, as it will develop in Mobile County.

## Forward Movements Among Colored Farmers

Another evidence that our colored farmers are making progress is found in the organization among them of co-operative movements. This is especially true of Virginia. Last week we told in editorial correspondence of a project in Lunenburg county that has succeeded from the beginning. A prospectus which we have just received tells of the organization of a similar enterprise in Brunswick county. It is styled "The Brunswick County Co-operative Company," is chartered with a capital of \$15,000, and has its home office at Lawrenceville, the seat of St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School, which has done so much for the uplift of the race in Brunswick and adjoining counties. The company will specialize in lands, buildings, fertilizers, commodities, loans and investments. The company will aim to assist farmers in purchasing farms, erecting suitable farm homes and out-buildings and to standardize fertilizers and other supplies in order that the farmer may reap the advantage of buying these at wholesale prices. The prospectus sets forth its aims with regards to guano and provisions in the following paragraph:

"Think of what co-operative buying would mean in the single instance of guano. There are certainly over 1000 tons of guano bought by our colored farmers every year. At the prevailing market price and terms its cost is around \$18.00 to \$24.00 per ton or \$18,000.00. Buying in quantities and for cash as the company will do from \$3.00 to \$5.00 can

be saved upon each ton or say from \$3000.00 to \$3,500. saved annually into the pockets of our farmers. Apply the same practice to flour, meat, feed and other commodities which the farmers buy largely and substantial savings would result. As the company's charter empowers it to deal in commodities and merchandise of all kinds there is no limit to the possibilities along this line."

When we consider how well Negro farmers have done without the aid of these co-operative movements, one need have no fears for the future, but may expect greater strides as a result of organized effort. Ten years ago the Negroes of Brunswick county owned 25,000 acres of land, valued with the buildings thereon and personal property at \$332,000.00. Then came the Farmers' Conference, organized by Archdeacon Russell and held each year at Saint Paul's School, and after ten years of conference work the Negroes of Brunswick county own today 58,000 acres of land valued with buildings thereon and personal property at \$800,000. The Co-Operative Company is an outgrowth of the Conference and will serve to accelerate the work so well begun ten years ago. Our people have no room to boast, but it is remarkably significant when Negroes more than double their land holdings in one county within the short period of one decade.

While the progress made in Brunswick county is somewhat exceptional, due to the influence of St. Paul's School, we find the same conditions existing in the Tidewater counties, territory contiguous to Hampton Institute, where also a Farmers' Conference is held once a year. In twenty-four Tidewater counties, namely, Accomac, Caroline, Charles City, Elizabeth City, Essex, Gloucester, Isle of Wright, James City, King and Queen, King William, Lancaster, Mathews, Middlesex, Nansemond, New Kent, Norfolk, Northampton,

Northumberland, Richmond, Princess Anne, Southampton, Warwick, Westmoreland and York. Negroes owned fifty years ago about 5000 acres of land valued with buildings at \$70,000. According to the last census reports they own now 421,465 acres, valued with improvements thereon at \$4,282,947. In the whole state of Virginia Negroes own, according to the report of the Auditor for 1912, 1,629,626 acres of land, valued with improvements at \$14,156,757.

## PROPOSED WOODWARD MEMORIAL.

To the Editor of the Republic.

At the Missouri State corn growers fair and contest last week in connection with the farmers' yearly meeting at Missouri University, a negro farmer, N. C. Bruce, exhibiting and competing for the "Bartlett Farm and School" at Dalton, Chariton County, won sweepstakes premium for highest yield of corn on one acre, 108 bushels, and the greatest average of a sixty-acre corn field in all Missouri for 1913, average between sixty-five and seventy-five bushels per acre.

First money, first honor, was won by this "first" and only "Farm and Country Life School" for Missouri negro people. This school was founded five years ago, and has been solidly established in what is known as Central Missouri, in the midst of the State's densest and most neglected colored rural population. Chariton County is surrounded by Carroll, Linn, Livingston, Macon, Randolph, Howard and Saline; is close to Boone, Callaway, Lafayette, Cooper, Audrain, Pike and Marion, all told, having "country life" negro people totalling over 40,000.

For these poor colored people, and for humanitarian reasons, based on their long neglect, the late Prof. Calvin M. Woodward, a life-long friend of all peoples in need, was working for this struggling school when his summons came a few days ago. With other white and colored men and women he became a great tower of strength in its cause. His last work Saturday, January 10, was in behalf of this school. His last words were: "I feel more light-hearted over the Bartlett Agricultural and Industrial School's outlook." "Our Missouri Hampton at Dalton," he said, won out at Missouri University for the largest yield per acre last year. Its help will now come from charitable Missouri people who have been waiting to see it prove its worth."

Some of the early work of this most eminent scholar and leader was to give St. Louis colored boys a chance at manual training, which the State denied them elsewhere.

Like Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt, Prof. Woodward lived and worked for a chance for God's most needy creatures, while never neglecting his own more fortunate white

race. "All men up" was his life work. All men and women, from Socrates to Abraham Lincoln, to Prof. Calvin M. Woodward, who have plead the case of the poor and have sacrificed to give the most needy a chance, somehow are remembered and honored in song and story through all time.

The most lasting monument to the memory of Prof. Calvin M. Woodward would be a "trades building," conducted along the lines of the needs of Missouri's "country life" negro people at the Bartlett School, at Dalton. A school like Hampton, under white control and yet like Tuskegee, was founded by a negro. "Back to his own farm, field, kitchen, garden, dairy and barnyard" is the watchword now. Good results in these is as great as being magistrates, generals and rulers.

The thoughtful people of St. Louis, without regard to race, should join in a general movement to erect a permanent monument to the memory of Prof. Calvin M. Woodward in the shape of a "trades building" at his colored school, which he loved so dearly and for which he literally died working, with the words, "I feel more light-hearted for our Bartlett School now."

The undersigned, appreciating the great worth of Prof. Woodward to all St. Louis in his progressive work to put St. Louis public schools far to the front of all others for good results, free from any narrow prejudice in dealing out exact justice to all, recognizes and sympathizes with him in his last recent brave public stand for State aid to her negro farmers by giving them an adequately equipped and maintained and controlled experiment station in connection with or attached to his very successful Bartlett A. & I. School at Dalton, and will join in with others subscribing for a permanent memorial to Prof. Woodward's memory—a \$50,000 thoroughly equipped "trades building" for the negro people of Missouri and the West, to be located at the above named school, under its incorporation.

The Board of Trustees of the school includes the following: W. K. James, president, St. Joseph; Alexander Mastey, Kansas City; William B. Ittner, St. Louis; Prof. N. C. Bruce, secretary, Dalton, Mo.; Prof. Frank L. Williams, assistant secretary, principal Sumner High School, St. Louis; Herschel Bartlett, treasurer, president of Bartlett Bros. Land and Loan Company, St. Joseph; Prof. Holmes Smith, Washington University, St. Louis; Prof. J. D. Eliff, Teachers' College, Missouri University, Columbia; Huston Wyeth, St. Joseph; George D. Dayton, Minneapolis, Minn.; Henry Kirklin, Columbia; Joseph Wheelless, St. Louis; George W. Walker, St. Joseph; John Lange, Kansas City.

Signed, JOSEPH WHELESS.  
St. Louis, January 22.  
PIG CLUB IDEA MEETS POPULAR APPROVAL.

The raise-a-pig movement, which was inaugurated by Booker T. Washington, some weeks ago, has caused much favorable comment from both

the white and colored press. The Charlotte (N. C.) Observer speaks editorially as follows:

"The Observer has always found much to commend in Booker Washington's administration of the affairs of Tuskegee Institute, but nothing more than the inspiration which has come to him through conditions precipitated on the South by the European war. In a letter to the editor of the Observer—and one which we suppose he has sent to other papers—he outlines a policy by which the colored race may provide itself with better homes, schools, colleges and churches and last but not least, pay its debts. He warns that this desirable result can not be attained at once, but steadily and progressively through 'a strong pull together.' According to the argument of this colored educator, there are 1,400,000 colored families who live on farms or in villages. Of this number, at the present time, 700,000 have no pigs. 'I want to ask that each family raise at least one pig this fall. Where one or more pigs are already owned, I want to ask that each family raise one additional pig this fall.' He suggests that this plan be followed by the organization of a pig club in every community, where one does not already exist and asks that the matter be taken up through families, schools, churches, societies, farmers institutes and business leagues. As he figures it, the average pig is valued at about \$5. If each family adds only one pig, in a few months at the present prices of hogs, \$10 would be added to the wealth of the owner and \$14,000,000 to the wealth of the colored people. If each family adds two pigs, it would have in a few months \$20 more wealth and \$28,000,000 would be added with which to promote the welfare of the race during the money stringency created by the European war. The Observer commends this plan to the colored farmers of North Carolina. It is the most practical piece of advice which has been handed out to them in years, and it points the way to independence and the comforts of life."

KANSAS CITY, MO.

JOURNAL

MAR 29 1915

## Urges Negroes to Become Farmers.

H. P. Ewing, negro, who is advising the men of his race to take up farming as an occupation and who has acquired a large acreage of western Kansas land, outlined his plans to a large audience at the Vine Street Baptist church last night. He will speak in the M. E. church at Bonner Springs, Kas., on Friday night.



# Agriculture - 1915

## Conditions and Improvement

### Not a Single North Carolina County Feeds Itself

WILL Allen, whose Kansas editor, made himself famous by writing an eloquent "What's the Matter With Kansas?" E. C. Branson, at our State University, is making himself famous by proving through figures what's the matter with North Carolina.

Here's what's the matter: There is not a single county in North Carolina that grows enough food and feed to supply man and beast, folks and animals, in that county. Alleghany comes nearest to doing it, lacking only \$19,000 worth. In half the counties in the state, however, the foods and feeds grown in that county lack a million dollars' worth of being enough to feed the county.

This, at any rate, is what the census statistics indicate, and Mr. G. W. Bradshaw, working under Professor Branson's direction, has worked out the figures showing just how much each county lacks of raising enough foods and feeds to be self-sustaining. Look over the following list, and see how your county stands:

Rank	County	Deficit	Rank	County	Deficit
1	Alleghany ..	\$ 19,000	50	Chatham .....	\$1,013,000
2	Clay .....	148,000	51	Bertie .....	1,047,000
3	Tyrrell .....	237,000	52	Bladen .....	1,075,000
4	Camden .....	239,000	53	Davidson .....	1,107,000
5	Graham .....	256,000	54	Stanly .....	1,111,000
6	Orange .....	301,000	55	Warren .....	1,131,000
7	Currituck .....	309,000	56	Burke .....	1,138,000
8	Transylvania ..	338,000	57	Randolph .....	1,145,000
9	Polk .....	372,000	58	Sampson .....	1,167,000
10	Yancey .....	396,000	59	Pasquotank ..	1,176,000
11	Gates .....	407,000	60	Harnett .....	1,258,000
12	Dare .....	412,000	61	Richmond .....	1,283,000
13	Martin .....	470,000	62	Duplin .....	1,317,000
14	Alexander .....	476,000	63	Lenoir .....	1,354,000
15	Ashe .....	476,500	64	Wilkes .....	1,370,000
16	Pamlico .....	505,000	65	Alamance .....	1,373,000
17	Hertford .....	518,000	66	Catawba .....	1,411,000
18	Macon .....	524,000	67	Granville .....	1,463,000
19	Jackson .....	544,900	68	Columbus .....	1,470,000
20	Yadkin .....	545,000	69	Cabarrus .....	1,503,000
21	Lee .....	572,000	70	Vance .....	1,528,000
22	Swain .....	576,000	71	Surry .....	1,552,000
23	Hyde .....	594,000	72	Iredell .....	1,558,000
24	Jones .....	603,000	73	Franklin .....	1,572,000
25	Washington ..	632,000	74	Rutherford .....	1,639,000
26	Chowan .....	638,000	75	Anson .....	1,687,000
27	Watauga .....	674,000	76	Wilson .....	1,759,000
28	Onslow .....	704,000	77	Edgecombe ..	1,791,000
29	Greene .....	721,000	78	Wayne .....	1,845,000
30	Pender .....	728,000	79	Nash .....	1,850,000
31	Perquimans ..	732,000	80	Rowan .....	1,902,000
32	Caswell .....	734,000	81	Beaufort .....	1,910,000
33	McDowell .....	742,000	82	Madison .....	1,947,000
34	Davie .....	763,000	83	Johnston .....	1,960,000
35	Cherokee .....	785,000	84	Halifax .....	1,968,000
36	Mitchell .....	804,000	85	Union .....	2,004,000
37	Stokes .....	817,000	86	Rockingham ..	2,089,000
38	Scotland .....	827,000	87	Cumberland ..	2,300,000
39	Montgomery ..	835,000	88	Pitt .....	2,305,000
40	Lincoln .....	870,000	89	Craven .....	2,312,000
41	Moore .....	881,000	90	Gaston .....	2,378,000
42	Haywood .....	895,000	91	New Hanover ..	2,464,000
43	Brunswick .....	906,000	92	Durham .....	2,559,000
44	Person .....	920,000	93	Forsythe .....	2,734,000
45	Northampton ..	944,000	94	Buncombe .....	2,853,000
46	Henderson .....	968,000	95	Robeson .....	2,933,000
47	Caldwell .....	996,000	96	Gulfport .....	3,681,000
48	Carteret .....	998,000	97	Wake .....	3,987,000
49	Cleveland .....	1,001,000	98	Mecklenburg ..	4,663,000

**ALABAMA - HER WEAKNESS.**  
The following editorial arraignment of Alabama and her ways is going the rounds of the State press

and is credited to The Moulton Advertiser:  
We throw away water and buy whiskey.  
We raise rats and buy corn.  
We throw away ashes and buy soap.  
We raise hickory bark and buy rope.  
We raise dogs and buy hogs.  
We raise wood and buy coal.  
We raise corn and buy bread.  
We raise ticks and buy beef.  
We raise weeds and buy vegetables.  
We raise molasses and buy sugar.  
We raise cotton and buy clothes.  
We raise hookworms and flies to kill people.  
We raise cottonseed to kill our hogs.  
We raise San Jose scale, codlin moth and bark louse to kill our fruit trees and buy fruit.  
We raise blackberries but are too lazy to pick them.  
We build school houses but we send our children abroad to school.  
We send our boy out to hunt with a \$40 gun and a \$20 dog after 10 cent game, and they cry hard times.  
Do you understand?  
That's a pretty strong indictment of our State.  
But, thanks to the war, we are seeing our faults and rapidly preparing to remedy them. We are going to raise a larger variety of things we need this good year. Do you understand?

### Amazing Increase of South's Grain Production

(From The Manufacturers' Record.)

The grain crop of the south this year will exceed in value by several hundred million dollars the total of the most valuable cotton crop ever produced by this section.

This remarkable fact is due to an increase in grain production throughout the south, which will demonstrate what this section is capable of doing in the development of diversified farming. According to the forecast of grain production for the country, based on conditions July 1, the production of grain in the southern states for this year will be 1,540,000,000 bushels or a gain of 286,000,000 bushels over last year. If to the figures covering wheat, corn and oats we properly add the rice crop of 30,000,000 bushels, the total grain for the south this year will be 1,570,000,000 bushels, and as this year's rice crop exceeds by 6,000,000 bushels last year's, we would have a total increase of grain in this section of 292,000,000 bushels.

This phenomenal situation is all the more impressive when taken in connection with the grain crop of the entire country.

The estimated yield for the country for the year, including rice, is 5,414,000,000 bushels, or an increase of 490,000,000 bushels over 1914. Out of this total gain 292,000,000 bushels, or nearly 60 per cent, is due to the increase in the south. The grain in this section will be nearly 23 per cent over last year, as compared with only 51-2 per cent for the balance of the country. The actual gain in the south is 94,000,000 bushels greater than the increase in the balance of the United States. These figures are wonderfully significant of the agricultural possibilities of the south, and this increase in grain, which typifies the increase in foodstuffs generally, will largely offset the adverse situation in

cotton. In the south corn commands a much higher figure than in the west, running often from 10 to 20 cents a bushel more than western prices. On this basis, therefore, it is safe to estimate that the grain crops of the south will represent a gain of at least \$250,000,000 over last year's figures.

Every state, with the exception of Maryland, whose wheat crop is short, shares in this increased grain production. Alabama shows a gain of nearly 17,000,000 bushels; Arkansas, 23,500,000 bushels; Georgia, 18,700,000 bushels; Louisiana, 16,000,000 bushels; Mississippi, nearly 20,000,000 bushels; South Carolina, 8,700,000 bushels; Virginia, 18,200,000 bushels; while Texas comes to the front with a gain of 58,600,000, and Oklahoma 40,400,000 bushels.

Every business interest in the south should feel the vivifying influence of this splendid grain crop. The south did not this year turn its attention to grain as largely as it should have done, and at the same time still further lessen its cotton acreage, but it has made a magnificent start, which indicates its almost limitless opportunities for grain-growing.

In 1900 the production of wheat, corn and oats in the south was 911,000,000 bushels, compared with this year's yield of 1,540,000,000. We have thus advanced the production this year over 1900 by 630,000,000 bushels.

But looking beyond the south to the whole country we find that Nature has again blessed this land with abundant crops already harvested, and with the promise of splendid crops now growing. If conditions do not materially decrease the expected corn production, this year's crops will largely exceed in value \$10,000,000,000. The indications of the United States agricultural department show a probable increase in the wheat production of 72,000,000 bushels; of corn, 141,000,000 bushels; of oats, 258,000,000 bushels; of barley, 13,000,000 bushels, and of rice, 6,000,000 bushels. The total figures on grain production, taking the estimate of the agricultural department for corn, with the understanding that it is too early yet for final figures, are as follows:

	1915, July 1, forecast.	Final yield, 1914.
	Bushels.	Bushels.
Winter wheat ..	668,000,000	685,000,000
Spring wheat ..	295,000,000	206,000,000
Corn .....	2,814,000,000	2,673,000,000
Oats .....	1,399,000,000	1,141,000,000
Barley .....	208,000,000	195,000,000
Rice .....	30,000,000	24,000,000
Total .....	5,414,000,000	4,924,000,000

With an indicated wheat yield of 963,000,000 bushels, which may, by fair weather conditions, be possibly enlarged to a better yield of spring wheat, and with an average increase for the entire country on July 1 of a fraction less than 26 cents per bushel higher the price for wheat than on the same date in 1914, it is quite safe to count on this year's wheat crop largely exceeding \$1,000,000,000. What the fluctuations may be during the coming twelve months it is not possible to forecast, by reason of the uncertainties of war, but that every bushel of wheat will be needed for domestic and foreign trade and at a very profitable price to the farmer admits of no question.

### North's Ignorance of South's Advantages Hurts Both Sections

Editor Constitution: I want you to read an article in this week's issue of The Manufacturers' Record, written by R. C. Cool, of North Carolina. You will observe that he substantiates in the strongest possible manner everything that I have said in reference to our agricultural conditions.

For forty years I have heard this talk going on in Georgia about reducing cotton acreage and raising cattle and carrying on diversified farming. My friend, John M. Graham, of the supreme court, showed me an article which he himself wrote and pub-

lished in The Crawfordville Democrat thirty (30) years ago, edited at that time by Edward Young, in which he told about some farmer in Troup county who was raising cattle and diversifying his crop and in which he appealed to the Georgia farmers to do the same thing. If that same article should be published tomorrow in The Constitution it would fit the present situation without the change of a word. And if you will read again Sidney Lanier's beautiful poem, "The Corn," published forty years ago, you will see that, from beginning to end, it is a scathing indictment of the Georgia farmer for the very thing for which I now arraign him and for which Henry Grady arraigned him in the years long gone.

**A Negligent Editor.**  
I am in correspondence now with the editor of a great New York magazine, brought about by the fact that I have taken his magazine to task, along with all the other magazines of the country, for neglecting to tell the people the conditions in the south and to aid in the development of this section, although this magazine recently devoted an entire issue to the exploitation of South America. I wrote the editor of this magazine that I had returned lately from a trip as far north as Boston, and that, with the exception of three or four men in Boston who are doing business with me here, I did not find a single man who had ever been south of Washington, although I talked with more than fifty people. I told the editor that the south is practically an unknown country to millions of people north of Washington. I told him that one man asked me whether the orange crop around Atlanta this year was a success. The editor says his magazine is doing all it can, but he admits that I am right in the statement that the south is an unknown country to the north, the east and the west.

The people in other sections of the country simply do not believe that it is possible to carry on diversified farming and raise live stock profitably in the south. How can they believe it when the conduct of our people and their method of farming gives the lie to all such claims? The newspapers and the magazines must keep hammering away on the subject until our claims are proved beyond the shadow of a doubt. When I made the claim that Georgia could produce corn and other grains and could successfully raise live stock, in conversation with a gentleman in Boston, he hauled down a book from the top of his desk and showed me a printed statement which gave average corn production per acre in every state in the union. In this list, Florida came last and Georgia ranked just above Florida. In other words, in forty-six states they make more corn per acre than is made in the state of Georgia.

My theory is that the exact truth ought to be told by the newspapers. If the present opportunity is not taken advantage of we will go on in Georgia and the south for another forty years giving our entire attention to the production of cotton and making no progress along other lines. There is no reason why anybody should be afraid to state the facts. I have as much at stake in doing so as any other one man, as my entire business is based on my ability to get outside money to lend in this state. I maintain that there is still no evidence of any material reduction in the cotton acreage, still no evidence of any material increase in cattle raising and still no evidence that diversified farming will be adopted to any great extent. Now, why do I keep troubling you about



this matter? Simply because there is no hope except through you and men like you who control and direct the great newspapers of the country.

J. T. HOLLEMAN.

Atlanta, Ga.

## PIGS AND NEGROES

Did you read Booker Washington's letter on pigs, education and negroes, which appeared in The Advertiser yesterday? It is ominously suggestive and goes to the core of one phase of our present economic problem. The negro who depends upon buying every pound of meat and every piece of bread from his landlord is going to see harder times than the negro who raises a shoat or two and a little corn and some peas. The negro does manual labor and he must have meat. He wants bacon. He can raise a pig or a couple of pigs in the pen in the back yard with little effort and small expense. Such enterprise would not only put money in his pocket, but insure part of his food supply, come what may.

In his letter, the Tuskegee educator and leader of his race says:

There are 1,400,000 colored families who live on farms or in villages, or small towns. Of this number, at the present time, 700,000 have no pigs. I want to ask that each family raise at least one pig this fall. Where one or more pigs are already owned, I want to ask that each family raise one additional pig this fall.

As soon as possible, I want to ask that this plan be followed by the organization of a Pig Club in every community where one does not already exist. I want to ask that the matter be taken up at once through families, schools, churches, and societies, Farmers' Institutes, Business Leagues, etc.

The average pig is valued at about \$5. If each family adds only one pig, in a few months at the present prices for hogs, \$10 would be added to the wealth of the owner, and \$14,000,000 to the wealth of the colored people. If each family adds two pigs, it would have in a few months \$20 more wealth, and \$28,000,000 would be added with which to promote the welfare of the race during the money stringency created by the European war.

The work of organizing pig clubs should not only go steadily forward among the negroes, but it should be pushed among the white people. Every hog raised in Alabama keeps at least \$5 in the State, in the pockets of the consumers. It is a simple, easy thing to do—his raising of an extra pig or two at home. But it means much.

## A \$4,500 ACRE.

Georgia land yields profits to brains in far greater proportion than to manual labor, no matter how well applied. An interesting instance is reported from Ashburn, where, on an acre of Turner county land County Demonstrator R. L. Ballard is growing 3,000,000 sweet potato plants to be sold at \$1.50 per 1,000. Here is a \$4,500 acre of land that will net a profit of approximately 50 per cent, or more than \$2,000, because the investment and energy that were put into it were backed by brains.

True, this is an exceptional case, requiring considerable outlay of capital as well as constant attention; but it is a striking

illustration of what can be done with Georgia land, and there are plenty of farmers in Georgia who have the brains to invest along with their capital and labor.

There are many Georgia products which will yield handsome returns, where brains are put into the process, which do not require anything like the outlay of capital involved in cultivating sweet potato plants. There have been instances in which an acre of Georgia strawberries yielded as high as \$2,000 gross; and there are plenty of truck crops which, properly cultivated and attended, will bring \$500 or \$600 and even as high as \$1,000.

The value of an "idea" is often just as great in farming as it is in business. It is planning to do something better than the average, and doing it, that counts. If every Georgia farmer would pick out just one acre for the exploitation of an idea, and put into it the best that is in him, we would soon have many wonderful records of production that would interest and startle the world.

Remarkable yields, such as the \$4,500 acre instance, are today the exception; brains put into the capital and energy now employed would come pretty near to making them the rule.

themselves; and even waiters and bellhops are mulcted a percentage of their tips to someone "higher up."

The evil of tipping consists not in the mere giving of small remuneration to a servant who has performed his service well, but in the unpleasant feeling that certain employers of labor are making use of a system through which they compel the public to pay often the larger proportion of the salaries of their employees; and, further, that these employers themselves, through the sale of privileges, sometimes extort money from the public. It is this distasteful extreme to which tipping has been carried that has contributed so largely to its unpopularity.

But has not tipping also become a great American habit? And, it might be asked, will laws break it down any more than they have broken down other widespread and firm-fixed habits? They may in time, but at the outset it will be, at best, an experiment. Laws may do their part in the process of correction, but better still would be that manifestation of a determined public sentiment which would force employers themselves, as some few have already done, to display conspicuously the sign "No Tips Allowed."

## ABOUT GARDENS.

Macon Telegraph.

In Germany a war committee has been appointed on vegetable raising. In the cities their flower gardens are being turned into vegetable gardens.

Vegetable gardens are needed here in Georgia. In

the villages and sees vegetable gardens, but they are somewhat neglected on the farms. Their economic importance is not realized. No family, white or black, in the country should be without a garden. It is entirely possible to have fresh vegetables all the year round. Yet good gardens are the exception.

Negro farmers do absolutely nothing in this direction. They have never done anything on this line. They prefer to live from the stores. If they eat vegetables they buy them instead of raising them.

It is hard to teach them the economy of a garden. Many landlords have furnished them the seed, but of no avail. One reason why it is so costly to supply negro tenants or croppers is the fact of their inattention to gardens. In planting time and cotton chopping time the women assist, but they will not employ their idle hours in the early spring growing vegetables. This is true in the entire negro belt all over the South. It would be well to have a few negro demonstrators to interest, if possible, the colored people in vegetable growing.

## COMMITTEE WILL PLAN FOLLOW-UP AT MEETING HERE

Continuation of the Diversification Campaign Will Be Discussed Today

WILL MEET AT 4 P. M.

The general committee of the Crop Diversification Campaign, A. C. Davis, chairman, will meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Chamber of Commerce to start the follow-up work of the campaign.

This meeting is for the special purpose of planning for the important follow-up meeting at one of the hotels in this city next Tuesday night. At this time the presidents and secretaries of the Chambers of Commerce in the central and southern parts of the State will be here to aid in the organization of the work. Members of the campaign committees in all the counties in the Montgomery territory will be asked to come here and take part in the meeting. The leaders of the campaign in Mobile and Birmingham will also be present.

J. A. Wade, Commissioner of Agriculture; W. F. Feagin, State Superintendent of Education, and P. G. Holden, director of the agricultural extension department of the International Harvester Company, will be asked to meet with the general committee and the men from other parts of the State to aid in the formation of a permanent organization to continue the work started by the campaign.

## Three Organizations.

The general idea at present is that there shall be three organizations in the State, one with headquarters at Mobile, one with headquarters at Mont-

gomery, and one with headquarters at Birmingham, thus covering the entire State. It is thought that later, when the work is well under way, these three organizations will be merged into one.

Just what lines the follow-up work will take has not been decided on definitely, and will not be until the meeting next Tuesday night. This meeting will take the form of a dinner at one of the Montgomery hotels. Mr. Davis is sending out letters of invitation to Mobile, Birmingham and to the campaign leaders in all the counties in this part of the State.

The result of the meeting, it is confidently expected, will be an organization that will accomplish more for the people in the present year than any other movement has ever done.

"The campaign has inspired the people, and showed them the way," said Mr. Davis. "Now we must take up the work of helping the farmers who want to diversify and have more livestock and poultry; we must provide markets for the surplus crops; we must help the boys and girls in raising chickens and pigs, and we must arrange for meetings at regular intervals in all of the counties."

## Others Concur.

Other members of the general committee here feel the same way about the follow-up movement. "Our people have never before got together on any movement as they have on the campaign," said Pierce Chilton, chairman of the publicity committee. "Never have we business men been so deeply interested in helping the people to develop our unbounded agricultural resources. Never has there been such earnestness and enthusiasm in any movement here. Never have the business men worked so hard to make anything such a success. Now we must continue the work."

Before leaving for Mobile yesterday morning, Professor Holden spoke in high terms of the work of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce and of the newspapers in the campaign. It said, that despite the continuous thought, long hours and hard work, the campaign work had been a pleasure to him and his associates, because of the splendid support of the business men, the farmers and the newspapers. He promised the general committee that he would return next Tuesday night for the follow-up meeting and give what aid he could in plans for making the campaign worth a good many millions of dollars to Alabama this year.

## FIRST BALE IN TOOMBS

Lyons, Ga., Aug. 5—The first bale of cotton of the 1915 crop marketed in Toombs county was received at Lyons today. The bale was grown by John Arnold, an industrious colored farmer on the Danedom plantation near the city. It weighed 400 pounds, was ginned free of charge by the W. C. Oliver ginnery and bought by J. P. Brown for ten cents per pound. The business men of the city gave the grower a premium of \$10 for his enterprise in bringing the first bale of cotton to market this season.



## A RENTAL CONTRACT PROVIDING FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND ROTATION

THIS AGREEMENT AND RENTAL CONTRACT is made between Bill Jones and Mrs. G. H. Mathis, the owner of the farm located in Section 36, near..... Town, on..... Public Road.

.....desires to rent 50 acres of land, a two-horse crop, South of the center of Section..... the metes and bounds of said fifty acres having been decided upon by mutual agreement.

I, Bill Jones, agree to perform the following named duties, over and above the proper cultivation of said land, also agreeing to cultivate the land in such crops as is directed by Mrs. Mathis:

I agree to work the roads through the farm at such times as Mrs. Mathis may direct; I agree to assist in keeping the pasture fences in perfect condition the year through; I agree to put the small repairs on and about the premises, to keep all filth and manure removed, so as to protect the health of my own family and the water supply for other people. And I agree to furnish all my farming implements and stock.

## CROPS

I, Bill Jones, agree to plant 15 acres in corn on such land as Mrs. Mathis may assign to that purpose; I agree to plant 5 acres in oats, and 3 acres in hay; I agree further to follow the oats with peas, one acre of which shall be cultivated in rows and harvested as a pea crop, Mrs. Mathis to receive one-third the crop, and I to receive two-thirds. If I desire to sell the peas, Mrs. Mathis agrees to buy them at the market price.

There shall be two acres of land devoted to early maturing crops, such as Irish potatoes, corn and fall crops of turnips, or other small vegetables. I agree to raise these crops and sell them cooperatively with other renters on the farm, and under the direction of Mrs. Mathis. I agree to plant one acre in water-melons.

The balance of the land is to be planted in cotton or whatever money crop may be agreed upon between me and Mrs. Mathis.

## SALE OF CROPS

I, Bill Jones, agree to pay Mrs. Mathis one-third of all crops raised place, either as one-third of the crop itself, or one-third of the money from the crop, as she may direct.

I agree to harvest and house all hay and the entire crop without any expense whatever to Mrs. Mathis; she to furnish one-third of all fertilizer used. Mrs. Mathis is to furnish me a house to live in, with necessary outbuildings, and good pasture for my stock, during the year. And I agree to turn and sub-soil lands planted in crops, and to make a proper and thorough cultivation of the crops through the entire year.

I agree to keep a brood sow in the pasture and to raise \$100 worth of meat per year.

I agree to put a good cow in the pasture and raise a calf to be one year old, before killing.

I agree to plow a brood mare and raise one mule colt each year.

I agree to plant legumes in the fall, in any and all lands used, as directed by Mrs. Mathis, she to pay for one-half the legume seed, and I to pay for the other half.

I agree to plant one acre in sorghum and make at least one barrel of molasses for my own use.

I, Bill Jones, furthermore agree that the business shall be conducted in a fair and orderly manner, and without dissensions and fuss.

Mrs. Mathis agrees to counsel with me through the year and assist me with instructions and advice as to the crop, its cultivation and sale.

THIS AGREEMENT entered into and signed, this.....day of.....

## Mississippi Negroes Are Being Taught To Diversify

One of the men who is taking an active part in the Crop Diversification Campaign in Alabama is Dr. J. W. Beeson, president of the Woman's College and of the Male College—both at Meridian, Miss.

When P. G. Holden and his associates were in Mississippi last spring Dr. Beeson took part in the work, and had a couple of meetings at the institutions of which he is head and in which are taught farming and home economics.

Dr. Beeson was much impressed with the alfalfa field at the Negro College at Talladega. "It is one of the prettiest fields of alfalfa in the State,"

He held a preliminary meeting and paved the way for the Crop Diversification Campaign, and worked up a large attendance of negro farmers from several parts of the State.

"We found the negroes of this section using progressive ideas in farming. Nearly all of those in our audience own their own homes. They listened very attentively for over two hours and were then loath to leave. They asked intelligent questions and seemed very grateful for the help this campaign is giving them.

"This Negro College has a silo, a fine herd of cattle, and Duroc Jersey hogs. The improvement of the negroes in this section means much for the progress of the county."

## 700 NEGROES HEAR TALK BY EXPERTS SATURDAY

Special to The Advertiser.

HURTSBORO, ALA., Feb. 22.—Six hundred negroes gathered in the streets at the open air meeting at Hurtsboro Saturday. This part of the farming campaign that is being given attention by the farming men because the negro is here and must be dealt with. Many of them own land and are already diversifying.

At Uchee, Ralph T. Hemphill talked to 150 white farmers. At J. Smith at Uchee said at the meeting: "This panic isn't hurting me." Mr. Smith has 1,000 acres of land, 150 cattle, 200 hogs and 25 head of mule colts, and he raises the feed for them.

The attendance in Russell County reached 2,000, although fewer meetings were held than in former counties. Edgar Green of the Harvester forces, reported good meetings at Rutherford. Here, like Hurtsboro, the meetings were held in the streets. A negro string band opened the program.

At Pittsview J. F. Hudson and J. E. Hite talked to 300 farmers. F. P. Pitts is a strong advocate of diversified farming. Hogs and cattle claim much of his interest. At this meeting, dipping for cattle ticks was much discussed. Mr. Pitts last year sold more than 100 fat hogs.

One good sight at Hurtsboro was to see the negroes bringing dressed hogs and cattle to town. These small land owners are more prosperous every time than the cotton tenant.

The campaigners have received word from Bullock County that everything is in readiness there for the campaign.

## SOUTHERN FARMERS ARE DIVERSIFYING CROPS

Little Rock, Ark., July 22.—That the colored farmers of Pulaski county have diversified their crops can clearly be seen in cities, towns and villages, as well as by going through the country, is the report of H. C. Ray, county demonstration agent for the United States Department of Agriculture. His report follows:

"This accounts for the low price which the Negroes are getting in return from their farm produce.

The market is flooded with food products, and this condition is especially true of Pulaski county.

"C. C. Watson, State agent for the United States Department of Agriculture, and other government officials are interested in the farmers' co-operative demonstration work among the colored people and are responsible in a large measure for the vast amount of foodstuffs grown by the colored farmers this year. It can be said with a great deal of assurance that they are awakening, and are beginning to realize and appreciate the importance of the work which is being conducted by Mr. Watson.

"The colored farmers in Gray township have organized a Progressive Farming Club, and have already bought material for building a dipping vat and intend to have the vat completed by August 1. This same club has also bought a complete canning outfit, which will be used by many families to preserve farm products that cannot be sold at once. This fact leads one to believe that the colored people are coming together and getting down to business on their farms."

NEGGROES TOLD HOW TO GROW THEIR OWN FOOD YEAR AROUND

advertiser 3-2-15

Experts Would Make Cotton Grown in This County Surplus Crop Only

MEETING AT SCHOOLS

The largest farming meeting for the negro residents of Montgomery took place last night at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. The church was packed with colored men and women who came to learn how through diversification and livestock the negro farmers of Montgomery county can feed themselves this year and have their cotton as a surplus crop.

The meeting was presided over by Dr. W. F. Watkins, president of the Negro Men's Business League, who introduced the speakers. Addresses were made by Bruce Kennedy, secretary of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, Professor Edgar Greene, of the Holden forces, and one of the leading

farmers of Mississippi; and P. C. Parks, a member of the faculty of the Negro Normal School at Huntsville. Using a big market basket filled with fresh vegetables from the farm of William Frazier, whose farm is four miles from the city on the Norman Bridge Road, Professor Greene showed that vegetables could be grown in and around Montgomery every month in the year. He advocated a garden for every negro family.

## Finds Ready Market.

Frazier owns forty acres, and he said that he had always found a ready market in Montgomery for everything he could produce. After the addresses, Rev. R. C. Jenkins, pastor of the church, led his congregation in singing several old-time hymns, and then called on several negro business men who spoke briefly on the importance of the diversification movement. Among these were J. H. Phillips, H. A. Loveless, William Frazier and Dr. Watkins.

Professor Greene and Dr. J. W. Beeson, both of Mississippi, report great enthusiasm among the colored people. Their meeting at the Colored Normal in the morning was attended by over one thousand people, who gave the closest attention. The orchestra gave some excellent music.

Professor Green gave the chart work which made a deep impression on the colored people. It aroused a desire to make a living at home by means of a garden, poultry, pigs and a cow.

## How to Raise Potatoes.

Dr. Beeson told them how to raise sweet potatoes at ten cents a bushel and how to kiln dry them so as to keep them the year around. He said it was more nearly a balanced food than anything that grows in America, and has 50 per cent more food value according to Government analysis, than Irish potatoes. He told them to cultivate flat instead of on ridges, breaking the ground deep and stir lightly each week to keep in moisture. By kiln drying them they can be kept for home use and to market surplus when the price is higher.

Dr. Beeson, being an expert poultry man, having about two thousand fowls on his College farm at Meridian, Miss., told them how to be prosperous by having a flock of pullets, with good house, balanced feeding, disposing of the old hens and surplus roosters and poor layers, and help with the living and have something to sell every week in the year. He told of a colored woman who paid for a nice home with poultry in five years.

## Public School Meeting.

Three colored public schools came together at the Swayne School and were greatly interested. The colored teachers afterwards gave their experience on diversified farming, gardening, etc., and promised to teach to their pupils.

Dr. W. F. Watkins, a colored dentist, carried the speakers out in his auto.



# Conditions and Improvement

## OUR HUGE FOOD BILL.

*Advertiser 2-28-15*  
The business territory of Montgomery, for the purchase of foodstuffs sends each year to the North and West \$9,261,735. The business territory of Montgomery has only one export product—cotton. It ships out each year \$7,338,000 worth of cotton. In short the rich agricultural territory surrounding Montgomery, pays each year more than two million dollars more for what it eats and what it feeds to its stock than it produces. No wonder such great interest is being taken in the Diversification Campaign.

The figures compiled by those interested in the campaign show that the Montgomery territory each year send North and West two million dollars for ham, bacon, and salt meat. Montgomery and adjoining counties are as well suited for growing pork as any counties in Illinois, Missouri or Iowa. This territory should not only produce its own pork, but the diversification campaign will never be fully successful until a packing house is constructed, with a guarantee from the farmers that it can get all the hogs and cattle that it needs.

This same territory, one of the best grass countries in the world, sends out each year \$70,000 to buy lamb and beef. Probably the most inexcusable drain is the half million dollars we send to the North and West for corn and mixed feed. Again our people are foolish if they do not cut down, by growing wheat, their enormous flour bill. There is no sense in this territory spending a million and a half dollars for flour made from wheat grown out of the State. The idea that we should send two hundred and fifty thousand dollars into other States for the purchase of fruits and vegetables is ridiculous. A common, but a disappointing sight in this section is to see a negro's wagon, after he has sold his cotton, go home partly loaded with vegetables which he bought in town.

Probably the statement that this territory spends yearly for eggs \$206,875 is the most thought provoking item in the array of figures. There is no earthly reason why this part of Alabama should not be shipping poultry and eggs to some of the big cities of the country.

The biggest single drain made on our section, however, is in money spent for horses and mules. Each year we send no less than two and a quarter million dollars to the cattle markets of the West and the Middle West. What is the matter with this section that we cannot raise horses and mules? Not a thing in the world; we simply have not had the enterprise to pay any attention to it. We contribute to the world a little cattle and \$7,338,000 worth of cotton and that is all. We have to make up somehow, an additional two million dollars to pay for our food stuffs and our mules and horses. The Farm Diversification Campaign did not start a day too soon.

The intelligent Alabamian, on his journeys, has

been impressed with the prosperous look of the rural sections in Indiana, Illinois and other States of the Middle West. He has been struck with the prosperous, well kept farms of that section in contrast to the run-down-at-the-heels appearance of the farms in the Alabama Black Belt. If he has wondered at the cause of the difference, he need wonder no longer. Those people have been raising our food stuff and cattle for us and we have been paying for it with cheap cotton.

This economic condition cannot and should not be allowed to continue much longer.

## THE MILLIONS WE COULD TURN INTO PROFIT.

*The Montgomery Advertiser*  
Here is what ails us in the South. We are sending millions of dollars every year to other States to pay them for products which we are capable of raising as much food and feedstuff as any of the other States are.

Recently the Department of Agriculture at Washington issued some figures, estimating the number of bushels of wheat, corn and oats and tons of hay we import from other States. The department's amazing estimate reads:

	Wheat Bushels	Corn Bushels	Oats Bushels	Hay Tons
Virginia .....	1,662,000	3,893,000	1,074,000	200,000
N. Carolina ..	5,234,000	5,276,000	1,814,000	200,000
S. Carolina ..	6,006,000	13,244,000	3,007,000	90,000
Georgia .....	9,503,000	10,760,000	4,170,000	130,000
Florida .....	3,575,000	7,232,000	1,813,000	80,000
Alabama .....	8,500,000	8,986,000	2,955,000	90,000
Mississippi ...	7,280,000	11,212,000	1,230,000	70,000
Louisiana ....	7,659,000	7,068,000	1,280,000	70,000
Texas .....	15,084,000	40,620,000	9,438,000	250,000
Arkansas ....	5,676,000	4,897,000	2,037,000	100,000
Tennessee ....	2,394,000	2,124,000	1,585,000	125,000
Oklahoma ....	4,666,000	5,415,000	2,049,000	225,000

Total ..... 67,907,000 105,649,000 28,304,000 1,080,000

\*Shipped out.  
Oklahoma is the only Southern State that sells these products to other States.

As The Progressive Farmer points out, these figures take no note of the millions we spend for lard, meat, mules and "scores of other items," which we buy instead of raising ourselves.

The diversification campaigners are not only telling out people these facts, but are showing Alabamians how to change the complexion of what is now the wrong side of the ledger.

## FIFTY FAMILIES

### IN MERIWETHER

### "LIVE AT HOME"

*Constitution 1-11-15*  
Washington, January 10. (Special.) Fifty farmers' families, living in group and Meriwether counties, Georgia, come nearer living at home and live more economically than similar farmers anywhere else in the United States, according to the United States

department of agriculture.

The object of the investigation was to learn how much of the families' living was derived from products grown and consumed on the farm. They wanted to learn what proportion of the family's actual necessities were raised at home and how much were bought outside with the products of the farm.

It was learned that only 15 per cent of the farm labor was hired. In making up their report the investigators put down farm houses at a cash valuation, under the head of rent. They said this was part of the farmers' income, the saving of rent. The average for rent was placed at \$92 a year. The cost of food for each family was placed at \$480 a year, of which 78 per cent was found to be grown on the farm. In no other place except North Carolina was the proportion so great.

Home grown vegetables cut down the cost of living, and corn meal saved on the flour bill. Nearly all the meat products consumed by these families was found to have been raised on the farm.

The fondness of the people for buttermilk seems to have surprised the expert investigators who reported "the consumption of buttermilk reached the enormous quantity of 105 gallons per person per year."

It was found that the Georgia farms furnished their occupants with food and shelter valued at \$519 a year, which was nearly \$100 above the general average for the country.

## Prodigal Waste by Some of Our Counties

*Constitution 11-4-15*  
Editor Constitution: The positive forces operating for the redemption of the south are those which increase the income of the individuals and serve to lessen the cost of living. That we may properly appreciate what the farmers are doing it is necessary to ascertain what they are not doing. To the end that I may present clearly the true situation as it exists here in the cotton belt of Georgia and Alabama, I have recently made some careful investigations of what one county in Alabama is doing as well as what she is not doing agriculturally. It is a truth that civilization begins and ends with the plow. From the soil comes our greatest wealth. That nature responds freely, if man expend the proper energy, as well as applying brain power, we all believe. The trouble is, as these figures show, that we are not reaping abundantly because of a system that is all wrong.

The county from which I have gathered these figures is blessed with good soil, ideal climate, and, lying in the heart of the hills it has perfect natural drainage. Its citizenship ranks above the average as to intelligence, culture and educational advantages. Yet there is a waste of wealth yearly arising from a system which is based on cotton crops that could be saved to the farmers by the rotation of crops and diversification. Along with other sections she has been bending the knee for years to a master—the one-crop system—that has sapped her life blood. This table of figures points a moral and is potent in its pleading for prosperity.

Under one heading will be found the products that are shipped in and which could be raised in this county—Chambers county, Alabama—while under the other heading may be seen the fruits of the soil that are shipped out. While this table is typical of the average county in the two states mentioned, yet there is a good showing made by Chambers county on some of the products:

Shipped In.	
Meat .....	\$95,703
Lard .....	50,000
Hay, chops, bran .....	41,000

Meal, oats .....	267,000
Corn .....	35,000
Mixed feed .....	80,000
Flour .....	125,000
Canned vegetables .....	15,000
Canned milk .....	1,000
Canned fruit .....	1,000
Canned meats .....	1,500
Potatoes .....	3,500
Hogs .....	1,500
Horses and mules .....	225,000

Total ..... \$945,700

Shipped Out.	
Butter .....	\$ 5,000
Eggs .....	60,000
Poultry .....	50,000
Cattle .....	60,000
Hogs .....	1,500
Cotton .....	1,505,000

Total ..... \$1,680,500

Deducting the staple, cotton, which has made the condition now existing a burden, it will be seen that this county has been playing at farming. When the item of commercial fertilizers is taken into account, which is approximately \$400,000 for Chambers county, it will be seen what the waste of wealth amounts to which, if properly conserved, would help to bring the emancipation. In this lies the redemption of the south. Make Alabama, make Georgia, and every other state, feed her people. "Live at home and board at the same place" is the slogan.

J. E. TIMMONS.  
Chambers County, Alabama.

## The Negro Farmer Traduced By a Careless and Superficial Observer of His Achievement

*Constitution 11-25-15*  
Editor Constitution: I thought perhaps you might care to take notice of the accompanying clipping. There are three statements here which are apparently not founded on facts. You will note in the last paragraph that it is stated that there is one county in Georgia that is entirely deserted because of the indebtedness. The writer also stated that he passed through one county in Alabama populated entirely by negroes. There is no such county in the state. The third charge is that the negro as a farmer in the south is a dismal failure. While it is true that there is a great deal of room for improvement in farming by negroes in the south, we find, according to the census reports, that in the decade from 1900 to 1910 there was a very rapid increase in the value of farm property owned by negro farmers in the south. The value of the domestic animals owned by negro farmers increased from \$85,216,337 to \$177,273,785, or 107 per cent; poultry from \$3,788,792 to \$5,113,756, or 35 per cent; implements and machinery from \$18,586,225 to \$36,861,418, or 98 per cent; land and buildings from \$69,636,620 to \$273,501,665, or 293 per cent. From 1900 to 1910 the total value of farm property owned by the colored farmers of the south increased from \$177,404,688 to \$492,892,218, or 177 per cent. Very truly yours,

MONROE N. WORK,  
Editor, Negro Year Book.  
Tuskegee, Ala., November 22.

The clipping from The Pueblo (Colo.) Chieftain, above referred to, is as follows:  
**PASTOR FINDS NEGROES**

**OF SOUTH POOR FARMERS**  
The negro of the south as a farmer is a dismal failure, according to Dr. Samuel R. Maxwell, the Unitarian preacher who arrived in Pueblo recently and is reorganizing the Unitarian church here. Dr. Maxwell made an extensive automobile trip through the "black belt" of the south, traveling all the way from Wilmington, N. C., to Pueblo, 3,700 miles, overland. He takes a keen interest in sociological conditions. "We passed through one county in Alabama populated entirely by negroes," related



Dr. Maxwell concerning his trip. "There is not a white man living in the county. It was a most sorry sight. These negroes, however, are not as high a type as you see in the north, and appear to be of a much lower intellect."

"The land in that particular county is fertile, and these negroes would be prosperous if they tilled the soil properly and showed any evidence of scientific farming. All they grow is corn and cotton, corn and cotton, corn and cotton. It is very apparent that these negro farmers are lazy. Perhaps it's the hook-worm of Rockefeller fame. Their houses are mostly shacks. They seem to be contented as long as they have a shack to live in and raise enough for a mere existence. They make no pretence at public improvements."

Bridges are almost unknown in the "black belt." Dr. Maxwell crossed fourteen ferries in traveling 500 miles. One county in Georgia which Dr. Maxwell passed through was entirely deserted. Its bonded indebtedness became so great that the residents were compelled to give up their property and move out.

### SOUTH'S GRAIN CROP MAKES GREAT GAIN; NOW AHEAD OF COTTON

*Continued 9-19-15*

Baltimore, September 18.—(Special.)—Reviewing the remarkable increase in grain production in the south and summing up the change that is taking place in diversified agriculture, The Manufacturers' Record says:

The total value of the grain crop of the south for the present year, based on the final yield of wheat and oats and the estimated yield of corn and on September 1 prices for these grains, is as follows:

Corn .....	\$1,047,679,000
Wheat .....	168,836,000
Oats .....	88,873,000

Total .....	\$1,305,388,000
Rice .....	25,000,000

All grain .....

The magnitude of this startling increase in the grain crop of the south is best indicated by comparison with the value of the south's cotton crop. The most valuable cotton crop ever produced was that of 1913-14, which, including the seed, was estimated at \$1,134,000,000. Thus the south's grain crop this year will exceed in value by \$196,000,000 the total value of the most valuable cotton crop ever raised.

For the 10 years ending with the phenomenal crop of 1913-14, ignoring the later crop by reason of war conditions, the total value of the cotton crops, including seed, was \$9,350,000,000, or an average of \$935,000,000 a year. This year's grain crop of an estimated value of \$1,330,000,000, therefore, exceeds by \$395,000,000 the average value of the cotton crops of the south for the last 10 years. This is one of the most striking facts in all the ramifications of the business interests of the nation at the moment.

The total yield of grain in the south for the year aggregates for wheat, corn and oats 1,598,000,000 bushels, and adding to this 26,000,000 bushels of rice gives a total for the south of 1,624,000,000 bushels of grain.

This is a gain of 346,000,000 bushels over the grain crop of last year, or a gain of 27.4 per cent. The increase in the entire grain production of the United States was 701,000,000 bushels, and of this 346,000,000 bushels was in the south. Against the south's gain of 27.4 per cent, the increase in the rest of the country was only 9½ per cent.

The corn crop of the southern states, based on the forecast of September 1, indicates a yield for this section of 1,248,201,000 bushels, or over 301,000,000 bushels in excess of last year's corn crop.

The corn production of the south for 1915, based on the September 1 forecast, is as follows:

State.	1915. Corn, bus.	Increase in 1915 over 1914, bushels.
Alabama .....	71,600,000	16,112,000
Arkansas .....	57,800,000	15,800,000
Florida .....	11,644,000	444,000
Georgia .....	64,900,000	8,900,000
Kentucky .....	120,100,000	28,850,000
Louisiana .....	50,600,000	12,000,000
Maryland .....	25,500,000	969,000
Mississippi .....	65,500,000	7,225,000
Missouri .....	207,900,000	49,500,000
North Carolina .....	59,600,000	2,050,000
Oklahoma .....	123,100,000	73,100,000
South Carolina .....	37,328,000	790,000
Tennessee .....	93,100,000	12,700,000
Texas .....	167,700,000	42,900,000
Virginia .....	62,600,000	23,220,000
West Virginia .....	29,229,000	6,537,000

\* 1,248,201,000 301,097,000.

More interesting than the mere fact of the stupendous increase of over 301,000,000 bushels, or nearly 33 per cent, is the fact that this increase is general throughout the entire south. Alabama, for instance, shows a gain of 16,000,000 bushels. Arkansas comes forward with an increase of 15,850,000 bushels. The increase in Florida is nearly 500,000 bushels, and Florida authorities think that the national government's figures for this year's production for that state are underestimated, and believe that the increase has been very much greater. Georgia has made a gain of 8,900,000 bushels. Kentucky has made an increase of nearly 29,000,000 bushels, while Louisiana, which only a few years ago was scarcely ranked as a corn-producing state, has now advanced to a production of over 50,000,000 bushels, an increase of 12,000,000 bushels over 1914. Maryland, an old corn-producing state, shows a gain of a million bushels. Mississippi, like Louisiana, is rapidly coming to the front as one of the great grain-producing sections, and this year shows an increase of 7,000,000 bushels over 1914, the yield for the state being upwards of 65,000,000 bushels. Of course, Missouri, one of the nation's great corn producing states, as usual, comes forward with big figures. This time it shows a gain over 1914 of nearly 50,000,000 bushels. North Carolina produced nearly 60,000,000 bushels, a gain of upwards of 12,000,000 bushels over 1914.

The most astonishing increase in all the south is the gain in Oklahoma, where corn production jumped from 50,000,000 bushels last year to 123,000,000 bushels this year, though even that is not so significant, because Oklahoma is a great grain as well as cotton state, as is the general increase throughout the central cotton growing regions of the south.

South Carolina increased its yield by over 700,000 bushels. Tennessee made a gain of nearly 13,000,000 bushels; Texas, 43,000,000 bushels, while Virginia made the astonishing growth from 39,380,000 bushels to 62,600,000 bushels, an increase of over 23,000,000 bushels. In West Virginia the gain was 6,537,000 bushels.

More corn production means enriched fertility of all the land, more cattle, more hogs, more grass and a more well-rounded agricultural development, and thus a greater industrial progress.

Here is a gain in the south of 344,000,000 bushels of corn, wheat and oats, to which should be added a gain of 2,000,000 bushels in rice, making 346,000,000 bushels increase in the grain crop of the south this year as compared with last year.

The grain crop of the country shows an increase of 701,000,000 bushels over the yield of last year. Of this total gain, 346,000,000 bushels, or nearly one-half, is in the south.

The aggregate value of the wheat, corn and oat crops of 1915 by states, based on September 1 prices, is as follows:

States.	Value of Corn-Oats-Wheat for 1915, based on Sept. 1 prices.
Alabama .....	\$74,818,120
Arkansas .....	56,216,000
Florida .....	10,948,160
Georgia .....	76,381,860
Kentucky .....	107,235,400
Louisiana .....	46,275,460
Maryland .....	33,566,280
Mississippi .....	58,766,960
Missouri .....	211,692,600
North Carolina .....	75,153,810
Oklahoma .....	137,418,550
South Carolina .....	46,965,520
Tennessee .....	92,621,720
Texas .....	162,318,330
Virginia .....	81,410,680
West Virginia .....	33,600,090

\$1,305,389,540

From every angle from which these facts can be viewed they mark a tremendous change in the south's agricultural condition and give promise of a continued growth diversified farming, which will bring to this section a prosperity that it never knew the palmiest days of the highest price cotton. Cotton is an exhausting crop—exhausting to the soil and in some ways exhausting to the life of the south. Grain, and the cattle which follow grain, enrich the soil, strengthen its vitality and fertility, diversify the activities of the south, and broaden every line of human activity for the betterment of this section.

### THE SOUTH CAROLINA PROBLEM.

A new day for the South is dawning. The editorial which follows is from the daily *State*, of Columbia, South Carolina. Reading between the lines of this editorial one can easily see that the potential forces of the South are beginning to recognize that a property holding citizen is not to be discounted as a factor of importance. There is for Negroes great encouragement here outlined by the *State*.

#### The South Carolina Problem.

From a valued correspondent comes the information that during the last five years young Negroes, between the ages of twenty and thirty years, have acquired fifty houses in the town of Bennettsville.

When a man shows tax receipts for the preceding year for taxes paid on property assessed at \$300 or more he can obtain a registration certificate whether or not he can read and write.

According to the census of 1910 the average farm owned by a Negro in South Carolina contains 40.7 acres—is of the value of \$1,085. The 20,372 of these farms of Negro the State.

When the Negro is thrifty and industrious he is more likely to become a property-holder than is the white man similarly situated, for the reason that his tastes are simpler, he is satisfied with coarser food and a poorer house

and he can save more out of his earnings.

The report of our State superintendent of education shows that in the great white counties of South Carolina, Spartanburg, Horry, Pickens, Anderson, Oconee and Greenville, the habit of sending white children to school is less general than in other counties. In many of the counties having heavy Negro majorities on the other hand, Negro school attendance is general.

Business is no respecter of color. When a Negro becomes an independent landowner, he doesn't lack friends. The merchant wants his custom, so does the horse and mule dealer, the wagon seller, the banker, the lawyer, the newspaper publisher and every business man. That is what Booker Washington knows and that is what he teaches; that is what a thousand Negro teachers andachers are doing in the Negro ears South Carolina every day and every night.

There is no present danger of Negro influence in South Carolina politics and we can foresee no future menace of Negro domination, but in 1939, twenty-five years hence, if there shall be fifty thousand Negroes owning homes and farms in South Carolina, who can say that they will not seek to vote?

The white people of South Carolina do not perceive the real situation. Their political leaders won't let them see it. They refuse to recognize that white farmers owned fewer acres in 1910 than in 1900 while Negro farmers owned more. The number of Negro farm owners is now almost half the number of white farm owners.

The great, staring fact and problem in South Carolina is the number of landless white men. There are 35,000 white farm tenants and only 45,000 white farm owners. Twenty-five thousand white men, living in the houses owned by corporations, are working in the cotton mills. Twenty-five or thirty thousand other white wage earners live in rented houses in towns and cities. More than half the whole number of white men in South Carolina have only their hands and their wages.

The illiterate and the propertyless white man can vote in the primary, the real election, and so he is denied the incentive to get land and learning. The Negro must get one or the other to get the ballot and he is getting both.

The State of South Carolina, consciously or unconsciously, is working overtime to keep the poor white man poor and in darkness while it is forcing and driving and goading the Negro to come out of darkness.

We hope that there may be more and greater property holding among our people in the South in the next ten years than has been true of the past ten years.



## Conditions and Improvement of

FIRED BY THE "ATLAN  
MEBANE APPEALS TO  
Constitution  
2-2-15" AND MAKES

B. Frank Mebane, cattle enthusiast and captain of industry, of Spray, N. C., is proving his faith in the south's cattle possibilities with his check-book in a manner that is almost unique in southern history.

Mr. Mebane offered recently, through The Constitution, to head a movement to bring a Hereford cattle and sale show to Georgia.

On top of that, he writes a letter to Governor Locke Craig, of North Carolina, which follows, in which he makes this proposition:

"I will be one of a hundred to give a thousand dollars toward establishing a school of Animal Industry and Grassology in North Carolina."

## If Not, to Georgia.

So impressed is Mr. Mebane by the response to his Atlanta offer, as evinced by various local and state bodies, that in a subsequent telegram to The Constitution he declares that if the legislature of his own state does not take up his proposition he will repeat it to Georgia, and, "furthermore, I will be one of fifty to put up five thousand dollars each for the permanent establishment of the Hereford association of the state of Georgia."

## Tribute to Atlanta.

Mr. Mebane's letter to The Constitution follows:

Editor Constitution: Atlanta has more public spirit than any city in America, and I take the liberty of inclosing you copy of letter that I have sent to our governor, and you will note the concluding sentence gives color to the genuineness of my feeling and emphasizes my recognition of the broad public spirit of your city and state.

If the animal industry, especially Hereford cattle, was given a chance in your state, and once the farmers were started in the direction of beef cattle and developing the grasses indigenous to the soil, Georgia would soon be a power never dreamed of by the present generation.

It is my intention to pursue this matter vigorously, and I will speak more definitely as soon as I hear from my friend.

Mr. McCray, president of the Hereford Cattle Association of America, is a bold, aggressive, frank, clean-cut man, and with a charming personality. The history of one bull that he has ought to be read in every schoolhouse in Georgia. This bull, Perfection Fairfax, has made him an intensely wealthy man, and given him an international reputation.

I am sure that he will be pleased with your city, and that your people will give him a cordial welcome and be pleased with him.

Spray, N. C.

B. FRANK MEBANE.

## His Telegram.

Mr. Mebane's telegram to The Constitution follows:

"In recognition of the spirit portrayed by you and your state if our legislature does not accept my proposition and act upon the matter I'll make the same proposition to the state of Georgia, and, furthermore, I will be one of fifty to put up five thousand dollars each for permanent establish-

ment of the Hereford Association of the State of Georgia. You are at liberty to use my name in each instance.

"B. FRANK MEBANE.

"Spray, N. C., January 30, 1915."

MR. MEBANE'S STRIKING LETTER  
TO GOV. CRAIG, OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. Mebane wrote Governor Craig as follows:

"I will be one of a hundred to give a thousand dollars toward establishing a School of Animal Industry and Grassology in North Carolina. We have approximately one hundred counties in the state, and without hesitation, it can be predicted one man from each county can be found who will join the band.

"We are in that stage of evolution now where every proposition requires a pair of spectacles 'from Missouri,' and here they are:

"Let the governor, conjointly with the legislature, appoint a commissioner from each county to visit the states of Iowa, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Kansas and Ohio, and, incidentally, let each county appropriate \$200 or more to defray the expenses of the visit of its commissioner. Upon the return of these commissioners let ten among them be selected as trustees of the state university.

"The time has come when the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Despair should unite in a constructive domesticity.

"We need the lawyer, we need the statesman, the patriot and the politician, but we have reached the time when we need better farmers to support them. If you chain our university and our farms together, we will soon eliminate the weak links, the cheap schoolhouse and the cheap teacher.

"Few people in American life have any comprehension of the developments of the farming life in the state of Wisconsin, and, especially, the relation of that life with the university of that state. If you strike the university in Wisconsin you strike the farmer, and if you strike the farmer you have got the university at your heels.

"This spirit spreads out with educational pride and has given the state of Wisconsin more dairies in one county than there are in the entire south, and every dairy in that state today is subsisting upon cotton seed hulls and cotton seed meal shipped from the South Atlantic states.

"Every plowboy in Wisconsin is a university man and the university is every plowboy's friend, but there are few plowboys; the cattle are doing the work, and doing it without a payroll.

"In Iowa you drive along the road Sundays and you see the farmers, after their church hours, seated along the road discussing the analysis of the soil and the pedigrees of their animals. Death is the only agency by which they can secure the other fellow's land.

"In Ohio you strike the territory where the New England Puritan and the Virginia cavalier met. The soil of that country combed out the kinks of conflict of the two geographies, and Ohio began to be the home of presidents and to take charge of the government of the United States.

"When Virginia began to neglect her lands she let Ohio take her place in making presidents, and, in most instances, using some Virginia blood. Due appreciation and intelligent utili-

zation of the soil of Ohio did it. The Ohio valley gave to America its only type of a breed of hogs (the Poland China), a machine to convert corn of the Ohio valley in the quickest, crudest form of hog meat for the southern cotton slave, both white and colored.

"Kansas gives a concrete example of what the women, the Lord, the land of prohibition, with mere man to help, has done. The live stock industry and the crops of Kansas in 1914 is valued at \$638,000,000.

## A School House.

"Oklahoma is a red schoolhouse for a young boy who will not go to school. When this drag-net is brought to the seaboard and one end hitched at Murphy and the other at Manteo, the ocular demonstrations that have been given on the trip readily produces a teacher to show the boys in the eastern part of our state what can be done in animal industry, especially in feeding and fattening cattle, and that they have a land not equalled anywhere in civilization where as much forage can be grown to the acre and his cattle can be wintered as cheaply.

"Virginia today has the reputation of exporting approximately 80 per cent of the total amount of steers exported on foot to England from this country—to the English gentleman's slaughter house—the four-year-old ripe steer. Ninety-five per cent of all these steers that are developed, fattened and shipped by Virginia are bred and furnished by the counties in western North Carolina at a price of about 7 cents per pound.

"The mother, the daughter and the son who sells this calf in his early age receive about \$20, and often less. If the owner and the breeder of this calf could be given a 'slight look-in' in a practical school of animal industry, a realization would soon be had that western North Carolina was the nursery for registered beef cattle, and, furthermore, that the seaboard and southern cotton states are clamoring for the same age calf of proper blood lines, at a hundred dollars each, by the cotton slaves.

"It is simply a question of bringing

an early date to reap the benefit of a revolution that is going on in the cotton states.

"The western part of our state can breed them, the east can fatten and feed them. The people of Moore county, the sand hills and the eastern part of the state are unmindful when they speak of the razor-back hog, that he is a descendant of the English gentleman's Tamworth hog that was brought to this country by the lord proprietors local representative in the colonies. This Tamworth hog has prevailed in the eastern part of our state for 100 years in spite of the stupidity of man. The natural inquiry is, where would this hog be if he had had the slightest support of human intelligence and been furnished with some grass and legumes. The Tamworth hog is the foundation of what is commonly known as Smithfield ham.

"Immediately after the war, and for some time later, pride was a large part of the sustenance of the young man (and his parents) at the university. As soon as he reached that stage of conjugating Ferro, and incidentally betraying a graceful ability to handle one of the products of some of our western countries, he laid claim to a profound education. Somebody has got to show the country mother how the boy can go to the university and come back and give an example of intelligence and science applied to the land and be a constructive influence in the community for domestic science and domestic comfort. This example soon makes the grass grow and the cattle come. It builds a smokehouse and a grainery with good roads.

"The revolutionary nervous, moral, mental condition of the people huddled in our little towns calling for more

music and more legislation can only be cured by revolutionary acceleration of public sentiment to give the farmer the light to see the way. Good roads, with a smokehouse on one side and the grainery on the other, is the light.

"Lots of people have the picture hanging on the wall that reads: 'Those that have excessively, have by legislation; those that have not, are giving excessively legislation.'

"Practical and constructive education and more homespun rations is the only thing that will take that picture down.

## Call to Action.

"If we rise up and study our own geography, study the grasses indigenous to each man's soil and encourage the human animal to use some intelligence in giving the stock and cattle a chance, we will soon have an empire with the thrift of Germany, with the French finish and with the English appreciation of the other man's land.

"Germany began in 1618, fought for thirty years, and lost thirty million people. Continuance of the war and one wheat crop failure in America will make a barrel of flour the bosom companion of the town philosopher, and be an inspiration for more regulation.

"If North Carolina had kept pace with Germany since 1880 in its evolution of the soil and animal industry, furnishing professors and presidents would not have been limited to the state of Virginia, but to Heidelberg and Harvard as well.

"A hundred men, giving a thousand each, can be had, and will furnish a basis and a demonstration to convince the farmer of the benefit to be derived and in a very few years the farmers will send men to the legislature who will give the university the money she needs and pay a price sufficient for teachers to keep the best ones at home. Good teachers should not be forced to be good beggars. The good teachers of the state should have their salaries doubled and the energy of the poor ones directed in some other field.

"The agriculture product of Germany has increased 75 per cent in the last thirty years, whereas, that of the United States has made no appreciable increase during the same period.

"The present tendency of our schools is to turn out a production, which, in the course of time, will regard a cake of butter and a basket of eggs as a curio from the inland.

"These commissioners selected from each county could bring about a development in the west and in the east, with the Piedmont section culminating between the two, that will place our state in a position to furnish registered cattle and registered teachers for the balance of the cotton states.

"If we don't do it, Georgia will.

"Yours very truly,

"B. FRANK MEBANE.

"To Governor Locke Craig, Raleigh, N. C."

## More Hogs, Fewer

From the Charlotte Daily Observer

A couple of years ago Booker W. of Tuskegee, started a campaign among the colored farmers for the production of hog raising. His arguments were of a forcible character and the Observer printed his letters with commendatory remarks. How well he succeeded in enlisting the interest of the colored farmers is given manifestation in a report carried by the Savannah News. It is shown that in 1913 the value of the dogs owned by the negroes of Chatham county was \$775. This year the dog holdings of these same



colored people had dropped to \$155. These colored farmers have been devoting more attention to hogs, chickens and cows, hence the thinning out of the dogs. President Wright of the Georgia State Industrial college, has been inspired with a slogan for the colored people of that state, which would apply equally as well for the colored people of the south at large. It is simply: "Fewer dogs; more hogs." And in connection with it, the Savannah News advances some advice that is also worth passing along. It says the colored people of the country would be vastly better off if fewer of them were dog owners and more were hog owners. and, too, if fewer were in the city and more of them were out in the country planting crops, establishing permanent homes for themselves and so building up the fortunes of their families. So many of them wouldn't be living from hand to mouth in danger of temptations that idleness and shiftless living bring. Instead, they would be contributing to the development of the county, improving its soil, making better people of themselves and accumulating something of value.

### THE NEGRO AS A FARMER.

Following a recent automobile trip through certain portions of the south, from Wilmington, N. C., to Pueblo, Colo., covering a distance of 3,700 miles, made no doubt in more or less of a hurry, Dr. Samuel R. Maxwell, a Unitarian preacher, hastens to tell The Pueblo Chieftain, a newspaper of that city, that the negro farmers of the south are lazy, improvident and good-for-nothing.

He told of one county through which he passed in Alabama populated entirely by negroes, without a white man living in it. It was "a most sorry sight," he said. Monroe N. Work, a member of the faculty of the negro institute at Tuskegee, Ala., in commenting upon Dr. Maxwell's statement, in a communication published elsewhere in The Constitution, declares there is no such county in the state.

It will easily be concluded that Dr. Maxwell misrepresented things as to the particular Alabama county, when it is known that he also makes the statement, according to The Pueblo Chieftain, that he passed through a Georgia county which was entirely deserted, because its bonded indebtedness became so great that the residents were compelled to give up their property and move out. There is, of course, no such county as this in Georgia.

Likewise, Dr. Maxwell makes an evidently erroneous statement with regard to bridges in the south, declaring that he crossed fourteen ferries in traveling 500 miles. It is evident that if Dr. Maxwell did anything like this he got a long ways from the "big road."

But Dr. Maxwell's chief offense lies in his unwarranted slur upon the negro farmers of the south, based upon purely superficial observation. There are undoubtedly some careless and improvident negro farmers in every southern state, but agriculturally the race as a whole is making notable and cred-

itable progress, as is shown by the census figures quoted in the communication already referred to. In the ten-year period in the census between 1900 and 1910 the value of the farm property, including lands and buildings, owned by negroes in the south, increased nearly 300 per cent, while the value of domestic animals, poultry, implements and machinery, owned by that race increased in proportion.

There are poor and improvident negro farmers in the south, just as there are poor and improvident white farmers. Likewise, there are negro farmers who are as careful to keep up with modern methods of agriculture and to apply them upon their own farms, as are the foremost among white men devoting their time and attention to agricultural production.

The negro farmer in the south, as a whole, is making admirable and gratifying progress. If he has not done all that the white man has done it is not because of lack of desire, but rather of the absence of opportunity. He is in many instances eager and quick to seize upon new methods, and has shown a spirit of progress which is nothing short of marvelous.

There is plenty of encouragement in the south for the good negro farmer, and there are thousands of instances in which they have profited by it and built a competence to which they are well entitled as a reward of merit.

OMAHA, NEB.

WORLD Herald

MAY 4 - 1914

### NEGRO FARMERS.

A new problem is looming up in the southern states which is just beginning to attract attention. The number of white farm owners is decreasing and that of the black farmers is rapidly increasing. In South Carolina, the only state from which reliable figures have been obtained, it is stated, that between 1900 and 1910 the negroes increased their holdings by about 136,000 acres, and at the same time the whites lost 312,000 acres, notwithstanding the fact that their rate of increase in population was about three times that of the blacks.

If this tendency long continues the south will become a country with farm lands owned and cultivated by negroes and the whites will live in towns and cities. The old farm workers will become factory hands and the negroes will have the country to themselves. The leading paper of Columbia, South

Carolina, The State, says that "one white person in every six in the state has left the farm for the cotton mill or the village," and that "the withdrawal of 125,000 whites from the farms has kept the price of land down and enabled the negroes to buy them, so that there are nearly as many negroes as white farmers now."

It has often been stated in works on political economy that the class that owns the productive lands of a nation will rule it, and that is what is troubling some of the southern people. The State in discussing this matter says:

However unintentionally, South Carolina has for more than two decades pursued exactly the economic policy calculated to keep poor whites landless and illiterate, to drive them from the farms and segregate them as tenants in the villages and calculated equally to put the negroes in possession of farm lands.

The south will have to turn to the "poor white trash" for succor. It will bitterly lament that its common school system has not been put upon the same basis as that of the northern states. That is the only hope of the south and the sooner it recognizes it the better it will be.

### Bullock County

Spends \$1,330,100

Annually for Food

Advances workers in the Crop Diversification Campaign are securing statistics showing the imports and exports of the counties in central and Southern Alabama where the campaign will be held.

The first set of statistics to reach headquarters here is from Bullock County. It shows that while Bullock County has large exports in cotton, foodstuffs and livestock, its imports are larger and that more than a million three hundred thousand dollars goes out of the county to other states annually for the necessities of life. The figures show the wholesale cost of imported feeds, foodstuffs and live stocks are as follows:

Meats .....	\$ 150,000
Lard .....	73,000
Feeds .....	793,850
Flour .....	200,000
Canned goods .....	37,750
Potatoes .....	5,000
Horses and mules ..	70,000
Total .....	\$1,330,100

The exports are:	
Peaches .....	60,000
Butter .....	4,200
Cattle .....	15,000
Cotton .....	1,050,000
Total .....	\$1,129,200

New York Times,

15 June 1914

### ALABAMA NEGROES GAIN.

Immense Progress in Property and Other Ways in a Decade.

Negro farmers own or control 5,100,000 acres of land in the State of Alabama, or 350,000 more acres than they controlled in 1900. The colored farmers of the State have under their control 3,563,000 acres of improved land, and are farming 500,000 more acres of improved land than they were cultivating in 1900. In ten years the number of negro farmers increased 17.3 per cent., and now they own or control one-fourth of all the farm property in Alabama, having an aggregate value of \$97,370,000, or 107.5 per cent. more farm property than they controlled at the beginning of the ten-year period.

The progress of the negroes in Alabama is typical of what the negroes are doing in other States. With its colored population of 908,282, the third greatest negro population in the United States, Alabama affords a striking illustration of what the race has accomplished.

The first negro bank in the United States was established in Alabama. In the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of which Booker T. Washington is head, it possesses the leading negro educational institution of the world. Now Alabama has the first railroad in America to be conceived, promoted, built, and operated by negro people, namely, the Dixie Line, running from Kowalaga Community, colored, fifteen miles to Alexander City, in the eastern part of the State, where it connects with the Central of Georgia Railroad.

In agriculture, however, they are making the most progress. Fifty per cent. of all the persons in the State engaged in agriculture are negroes. On the other hand, 75 per cent. of all the negroes in the State are engaged in farming. There are 110,440 colored men operating farms.

The banking business is another line in which the negroes of the State are making progress. There are five banks in Alabama operated by negroes, the Alabama Penny Savings Bank and the Prudential Savings Bank of Birmingham, the Penny Savings Bank of Selma, the Penny Savings Bank of Anniston, and the Penny Savings Bank of Montgomery. A remarkable increase is shown during the ten years in the number of negroes who have established successful grocery stores, drug stores, real estate offices, and other enterprises. In practically every city in the State where there are large numbers of colored people they have acquired the ownership of entire city blocks.

The negro church has kept pace with the progress of the negro in agriculture, commerce, and education. In every city in Alabama where there is a large community of negroes they have built churches costing \$20,000 to \$50,000. The value of the church property owned by colored people of the State amounts in all denominations to \$4,000,000. Thus with the physical progress of the negro churches of Alabama has come intellectual and moral advancement.

### AND THE RAINS FELL.

Over around Uniontown rain and more rain is reported. Folks are beginning to think the cotton crop will be better than expected a week ago. There are plenty of potatoes, peanuts, peas, corn and other things to eat. Some of the negroes who sowed wheat last fall are mighty proud of their home-grown and home-made flour. Goes mighty fine with a few slices of ham, Major Vaiden says. By the way, the Major has done a great work for diversification among the negroes and this work has encouraged them to grow as much as they can of those things they have had to buy heretofore.



# Conditions and Improvement of

## Montgomery Territory Buys \$9,260,735 of Food Outside of State Limits

(Figures compiled by Chamber of Commerce.)

	Imports.	Exports.
<b>MEATS:</b>		
Ham, bacon and other salt meats	\$2,000,000	
Beef and lamb	70,000	
Lard and lard compound	400,000	
<b>FEEDS:</b>		
Mixed feeds, corn and chops	500,000	
Oats	386,000	
Hay	100,000	
Shorts	400,000	
Bran	40,000	
Meal	500,000	
Flour	1,500,000	
<b>CANNED GOODS:</b>		
Fruits and vegetables	250,000	
Milk	50,000	
Meat and fish	225,000	
Potatoes	150,000	
Butter	170,000	
Eggs	206,875	
Poultry	62,860	
Cattle		small quantity
Horses and mules	2,250,000	
Cotton		\$7,338,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$9,260,735</b>	<b>\$7,338,000</b>

## Diversification Would Change This

*Pigs and Education.*

Editor Constitution: Our race is in constant search of means with which to provide better homes, schools, colleges and churches, and with which to pay debts. This is especially true during the hard financial conditions obtaining on account of the European war. All of this cannot be done at once, but great progress can be made by a good strong pull together, in a simple direct manner. How?

There are 1,400,000 colored families who live on farms or in villages, or small towns. Of this number, at the present time, 700,000 have no pigs. I want to ask that each family raise at least one pig this fall. Where one or more pigs are already owned, I want to ask that each family raise one additional pig this fall.

As soon as possible, I want to ask that this plan be followed by the organization of a pig club in every community where one does not already exist. I want to ask that the matter be taken up at once through families, schools, churches and societies, farmers' institutes, business leagues, etc.

The average pig is valued at about \$5. If each family adds only one pig, in a few

months, at the present prices for hogs, \$10 would be added to the wealth of the owner, and \$14,000,000 to the wealth of the colored people. If each family adds two pigs, it would have in a few months \$20 more wealth, and \$28,000,000 would be added with which to promote the welfare of the race during the money stringency created by the European war.

Let us not put it off, but organize pig clubs everywhere. Give each boy and girl an opportunity to own and grow at least one pig.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

**NEGRO'S ONLY CHANCE  
TO BE INDEPENDENT IS  
FOUND UPON THE FARM"**

## REV. E. H. EWING SPEAKS TO LARGE AUDIENCE.

he "Back to the Soil" Movement  
Is Presented Before Congrega-  
tion of Baptist Church.

"The only way for a negro to become independent, the only chance for him to leave an inheritance for the coming generation, is to leave the city and return to the mother soil; be a farmer," was the declaration last night of the Rev. E. H. Ewing at the Vine Street Negro Baptist church, before a large audience. Dr. Ewing spoke in behalf of the Negro Farm Promotion society which is urging the negro to go "back to the farm."

"There is no chance for advancement for the negro in the city," said Dr. Ewing. "He forfeited those chances when he moved to the city, and the only way for him to become independent, the only way to win his way up is to go back to the farm and be a good farmer. It is not a question of the number of acres he tills, but the manner in which he does it, his management of those acres."

W. B. Brown, an attorney, spoke to the society, advocating the back to the farm movement.

PITTSBURGH, PA.

DISPATCH

## South Carolina's Land

Investigation into the land question in South Carolina reveals some curious facts. During the last decade 125,000 white persons moved from the farms to the towns. The loss of rural population in Iowa during the last decade is explained as a result of increase in land values. In South Carolina the explanation is decidedly different. It is said that the whites moved to the cotton mill villages because they will not work on farms to compete with Negroes at the wages that the latter will take.

At all events investigation by the Columbia State indicates a remarkable change going on. It is shown that tenant farmers increased from 50 to 66 per cent. It is asserted that the acreage of land owned by whites decreased by 312,000, while that owned by Negroes increased 136,000, which seems to argue that whites sold 176,000 acres without anyone buying. But the movement has had the effect of keeping the price of land low, enabling the colored people to buy cheaply. As a result there are now about half as many Negro land owners as white.

The tendency seems strongly toward white towns and Negro rural districts. South Carolina was once famous as the special State where there was a land-

owning aristocracy. If the present tendency keeps on the landed aristocracy of the future will be one of Negroes. Whether they get that position or not, they will certainly derive the benefit of any increase in the value of their land.

## BETTER FARMING DAY IN SCHOOLS OBSERVED TODAY

All City and Rural Schools in  
State Today Will Devote  
One Hour to Study of Farm-  
ing *advertiser 11-5-15*

Today is "Better Farming Day" and is being observed by every public school in the State. This includes the city schools as well as the schools in the rural districts. The day was set aside as such by William F. Feagin, State superintendent of education.

In each school room in the State an hour today will be devoted to exercises on farming, and especially will the students be instructed on how to get rid of the "boll weevil."

"Better Farming Day" generally is observed in the schools of the State sometime during the month of January, but Mr. Feagin this year decided to set it much earlier than usual, so that the lessons on the destruction of the boll weevil could be learned thoroughly before the spring.

The exercises in the schools today will be lectures of not over one hour long.

JUN 21 1915

Buffalo, N. Y.

Courier

Dr. Branson of the University of North Carolina is of the opinion that the colored man of the south is solving his own problem by becoming a land owner. A recent investigation shows in Florida about one-half of the negro farmers own the farms they cultivate, in Kentucky and Oklahoma more than one-half and in Virginia and Maryland more than three-fifths. The farm properties now owned by negroes are valued at \$500,000,000.

**THE MILLIONS WE COULD TURN INTO  
PROFIT.** *advertiser 2-22-15*

Here is what ails us in the South: We are sending millions of dollars every year to other States to pay them for feeding us, although we are capable of raising as much food and feedstuff as any of the other States are.

Recently the Department of Agriculture at Wash-



ington issued some figures, estimating the number of bushels of wheat, corn and oats and tons of hay we import from other States. The department's amazing estimate reads:

	Wheat Bushels	Corn Bushels	Oats Bushels	Hay Tons
Virginia .....	1,662,000	3,893,000	1,074,000	200,000
N. Carolina ..	5,234,000	5,276,000	1,814,000	200,000
S. Carolina ..	6,006,000	13,244,000	3,007,000	90,000
Georgia .....	9,503,000	10,760,000	4,170,000	130,000
Florida .....	3,575,000	7,232,000	1,813,000	80,000
Alabama .....	8,500,000	8,986,000	2,955,000	90,000
Mississippi ...	7,280,000	11,212,000	1,230,000	70,000
Louisiana ....	7,659,000	7,068,000	1,280,000	70,000
Texas .....	15,084,000	40,620,000	9,438,000	250,000
Arkansas ....	5,676,000	4,897,000	2,037,000	100,000
Tennessee ....	2,394,000	*2,124,000	1,535,000	125,000
Oklahoma ....	*4,666,000	*5,415,000	\$2,049,000	*225,000

Total ..... 67,907,000 105,649,000 28,304,000 1,080,000

\*Shipped out.

Oklahoma is the only Southern State that sells these products to other States.

As The Progressive Farmer points out, these figures take no note of the millions we spend for lard, meat, mules and "scores of other items," which we buy instead of raising ourselves.

The diversification campaigners are not only telling out people these facts, but are showing Alabamians how to change the complexion of what is now the wrong side of the ledger.

## NEGRO DOMINANCE OF FARMING IN THE SOUTH

Farming in the South is passing into the hands of the black man. In the last ten-year census period the number of acres occupied by whites actually decreased; the negro acreage increased. The proportion of whites engaged in farming decreased; the proportion of negroes increased. Ownership of farms by whites increased twelve per cent; by negroes, seventeen per cent. Among the whites the increase in farm tenants—men who do not own the land they work—was twenty-seven per cent; among the negroes it was but 21 per cent. The total number of white farmers working not their own but another's land increased 188,000; the total of negro farmers thus working another's land increased 118,000. In the Atlantic seaboard States from Virginia south, the negro farmers increased nearly twice as fast as the white farmers—twenty-three against twelve per cent. In the remaining territory south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi, the percentages are twenty-one against twelve. In the territory comprising Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma, the proportions were reversed; the white farmers increased twenty-eight per cent against the negroes thirteen.

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The situation in the Southern territory lying east of the Mississippi is all the more evident when these figures are considered

with reference to the total increases in population. In the seaboard States, white population increased a fifth, but the proportion of whites in agriculture increased little more than an eighth; whereas the total number of negroes increased only one-tenth, but the total number of negro farmers increased nearly one-fourth. The number of whites engaged in farming increased only sixty per cent as fast as the white population; the number of negroes so engaged increased 230 per cent as fast as the negro population. In the remaining States east of the Mississippi, the figures are different, but the essential facts the same, except that the increase in white population was only fourteen instead of twenty per cent. The increase in white farmers, however, was the same as in the seaboard States—twelve per cent whereas the negroes, increasing but six per cent in total numbers, increased twenty-one per cent in total number of farmers. In this division, the number of whites engaged in agriculture increased eighty-six per cent as fast as the white population, while the number of negroes increased 350 per cent faster than the negro population.

The sum of this is, that in all the territory between the Potomac and the Gulf, and between the Atlantic and the Mississippi, the whites are turning away from agriculture, while the negroes are turning to it. Manifestly, social and economic movements of extreme concern, not merely to the South, but to the nation, are taking place there. To interpret their meaning, however, is not easy. We may agree that, for the negro, his turning so extensively to agriculture is manifestly good—better, at least, than his turning to the towns and cities, where employment for which he is fitted is less easily obtained, and where, apparently, his racial weaknesses most easily assert themselves. Unquestionably agriculture opens a way for the negro to become a property owner and therefore to become a part not merely of the social but also of the economic system.

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But this may introduce new problems and additional complications into a situation already difficult. What amounts to a dispossession of the whites has already taken place in various districts, the consequences of which cannot yet be fully known. Among them has been, however, a serious economic loss through the decline in land values following negro occupation. To some extent the New Englander can understand this side of the matter from his own experience; for the supplanting of the old white possessors by the new negro possessor is not unlike the supplanting of the old New England farm-owner by new-come foreigners. New England knows that where the Italian and the Polack come, the old New Englander goes. Nor is his going a matter merely of prejudice. The immigrant's standard of life, education, morals, labor and wages are such that the native son cannot compete with him, or if he can compete, yet cannot live alongside him.

The situation is similar in the South. But there may be one notable unlikeness. The foreigner in New England increases the output of his land, and rapidly adds to the economic wealth of the community. Better and more productive agriculture follows his appearance, and his possession of large areas of the best land cannot fairly be said to threaten a check in the ultimate development of better farming. Whether the same can be said of negro

possession of rich areas of Southern farming land, must remain in dispute until negro achievement convinces those who doubt. One thing at least is in favor of such achievement. The natural imitableness of the negro, and his readiness in following (when well disposed) any directions that can be taken with a considerable degree of literalness, should tend to make him an excellent subject for instruction in sound farm methods, provided that his interest and ambition can by some means be maintained at the necessary pitch.

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Thus, to arouse and maintain aspiration among white farmers has, however, proved one of the hardest tasks of the better-farming movement; probably it will not prove easier with the negro. Indeed, the negro temperament shows a weakness as likely to interfere with such an attempt quite as seriously as the weakness of the white's temperament has interfered with it. The black man, naturally gay and irresponsible, easily finds content when his very moderate physical wants are satisfied, along with his easily gratified desire for parade and show, and when he has opportunity to satisfy the needs of his gregarious nature by foregathering often with his fellows. But the inertia of the white farmer springs in no small degree, not from contentedness, but from hopelessness. The despondency that, in some form, is to be found in the temperament of every branch of the Caucasian race—one of its greatest weaknesses—has gained the upper hand. Once convince him, however, that ambition is not hopeless, give him something to struggle for, and he becomes aggressively energetic.

Possibly this difference in the races may prove to be the outcome of something not so fundamental and unchangeable as temperament; if so, less difficulty will be met in raising negro agriculture to that level of ambitious and efficient energy which the intensifying economic and industrial life of the nation will demand of the coming generations of farmers. It may be, too, that the adjustment of race to race in the South is to be made through a natural process of occupational apportionment, the Caucasian dominating industry and trade, the negro devoting himself most to husbandry. If (as the present situation seems to indicate) agriculture is especially congenial to the black, and if he demonstrate an ability to keep that industry abreast of general industrial progress, such an apportionment of occupations might in the course of time almost solve the race problem. But here we have an if that is big, indeed. History will write the truth and error of these speculations; but evidently it has already written the beginning of a movement likely to displace the Caucasian with the negro in the agriculture of a territory vast in importance and extent, with tremendous possibilities for national good or evil.

Rochester, N.Y. Demo. Chronicle

## PROGRESS OF NEGROES.

Recent advices from Alabama indicate that the negroes of the South are mak-

ing consistent progress in bettering their condition. Negro farmers in that state now own or rent 5,100,000 acres of land, which is 350,000 acres more than they controlled in 1900. Their farm holdings have an aggregate value of \$97,370,000. It is not only in agriculture that the negroes are developing their interests. They built, own and operate a short railroad, and they conduct no less than five prosperous savings banks. During the past five years the negroes of a single Alabama county contributed \$20,000 for the support of negro public schools and considerably more than that amount for the maintenance of negro churches.

These figures appear to show that the Southern negroes are making a little world of their own, in which every encouragement is given to agriculture, commerce, education, religion and other elements that help to give a community a healthy growth and a stable foundation. If this movement continues to go forward, a time will come when the colored population of the South will be able to live useful and contented lives, almost entirely independent of white people.

In all probability it is some such separation of interests that the South must look to to solve its monumental "problem." It is well known that not personal dislike, but the fear of general intermarriage, is the reason why Southerners deny, and always will deny, the negro race social equality. The more intelligent Southern negroes, it is said, are not seeking social recognition, but they do feel that education, industry and religious training will put their race on an equal basis with the whites in all matters of commerce and civic rights. And in this belief they are undoubtedly right.

## Eastman's First Bale.

Eastman, Ga., July 28.—(Special.)—The first bale of cotton to be gathered and ginned in Dodge county was brought to the city Saturday and sold at auction, and brought 21 cents per pound. W. P. Cook, cashier of the Merchants and Farmers' Bank of this city, acted as auctioneer. The cotton was grown on the farm of J. C. Williamson by his farm hand, Jim Thomas, colored.



## Conditions and Improvement of

HOW ONE LANDLORD DOUBLED  
FIVE YEARS

DS IN

Good Houses Attracted Intelligent White Tenants, He Furnished Supplies at Cash Prices Plus Legal Interest, and Prevented Overcropping—As a Result His Farms Once Unprofitable Now Pay Handsome Profits—First Prize Letter

By O. M. Mull, Shelby, North Carolina

VARIOUS causes contribute to the apparent that our method must be inefficiency of tenant farmers, changed or both landlord and tenant many of which it is the duty of would fail.

the landlord to correct. As a rule. In our effort to reorganize our tenant farmer is furnished a mere tenant farmer with the hope of sup- "shack of a house" in which to live, planting our losses with a profit, we It is poorly located, out of repair and began by eliminating all colored tenants. If the factories and mills are unsanitary. The colored farmer may be of our state furnished their employ- success on the large plantations cur- ees houses similar to those furnished under the direction of a sup- the average tenant farmer and main- erintendent, but his possibilities are tained them under like sanitary con- ditions, the mill owner, in many in- tant farmer who must plan intelli- stances, would be wearing stripes and gently as well as labor.

The landlord, when himself a farm- er, also too often cultivates all the best fields of the plantation and leaves all the waste places, the rocks, the gullies, and the poor lands for the tenant; the landlord furthermore us- ing all the good teams and all the im- proved tools and machinery, while he furnishes the tenant nothing but "plug teams" and the old antiquated plows left him by some ancestor. Under these conditions, we frequently hear it said that tenant farming is a failure and that the tenant is "no ac- count." I agree that under such con- ditions tenant farming is frequently a failure, but the fault is more with the landlord than with the tenant.

Changing From Negro to White  
Tenants

I HAVE been farming with tenants for more than 10 years and have learned something of tenant farming by experience. I began with 300 acres of average ridge land in Piedmont Carolina, on which were five or six very sorry tenant houses and other equipment similar to that furnished the tenant by the average landlord. The tenant received no encourage- ment, no favors or assistance, and was not troubled with any aspirations or hope for better days. While we drifted in this manner our houses grew worse, the gullies increased, and the fertility of the land gradually wasted away. Each tenant had a surplus of land and planted more than he could cultivate. This was unprof- itable tenant farming and it became

Doubling Corn and Cotton Yields in  
Five Years

THE task of increasing the fertility of the land was now undertaken. With a good white tenant living in a comfortable house under satisfac- tory surroundings, and with the prospect of remaining at the same place for an indefinite period, this task was now much easier. Being situated in a hilly or rolling section, our first task was to properly locate and build ter- races, which was no small undertak- ing. While this was being done every gully was filled and leveled. We be- gan to improve our livestock and tools and with it our method of plow- ing.

The fields were quick to respond to this treatment. At first we thought we were doing well if we made half a bale of cotton per acre and if our corn averaged 15 bushels per acre. We improved gradually during the first five years until last year we made— cotton, 78 bales on 90 acres; and corn 1,422 bushels on 45 acres. This was practically eight-ninths of a bale of

cotton per acre, and 32 bushels corn per acre. Our best record by a single tenant was 18 bales of cotton on 14 acres, while the son of another tenant made 105 bushels of corn on one acre and won first county prize and the third district prize in the boys' corn club.

The exact yields made by various tenants last year were as follows:

## COTTON YIELDS

E. B. Cook,.....	18 bales on 14 acres
W. L. Riley,.....	9 bales on 9 acres
Z. W. Whitaker,.....	9½ bales on 11 acres
C. A. Ledford,.....	9½ bales on 11 acres
C. C. Cook,.....	16 bales on 22 acres
C. R. Ledford,.....	3 bales on 4 acres
Will Camp,.....	7½ bales on 11 acres
Rufe Sanders,.....	5½ bales on 8 acres

Total ..... 78 bales 90 acres

E. B. Cook, W. L. Riley, Z. W. Whitaker and C. A. Ledford combined produced 46 bales on 45 acres.

The Community Organized  
for Neighborhood Patri-

otism  
The Southern  
Outline of a Method for Secur-  
ing Community Co-operation  
in Business and Social Affairs

A scheme for the organization of rural communities for both business and social purposes is worked out in an article which is to appear in the forthcoming Yearbook of the Department of Agriculture and which has already been printed as a pamph- let for the use of the depart- ment's Office of Markets and Rural Organization.

The scheme calls for 10 com- mittees, 5 of which are to deal with business needs and 5 with social needs. Every member of the organization is to serve on some of these committees. In addition there is to be a central or executive committee com- posed of the president of the or- ganization, its secretary, its treasurer, and its chairman of the 10 other committees. This central body is to direct the general policy of the organiza- tion, raise all funds and control their expenditures. The com- mittees that are to deal with the business interests of the community are as follows.

1. Committee on farm pro- duction.

2. Committee on marketing.
3. Committee on securing farm supplies.
4. Committee on farm finance and accounting.
5. Committee on communica- tion and transportation.

Simply, the five committees are to attend to the community's social interest will deal with.

1. Education
2. Sanitation
3. Recreation
4. Beautification
5. Household economies

The work of most of these com- mittees is indicated sufficiently clearly by their titles. For ex- ample, the committee on pro- duction can do much good by improving the breeds of live stock in a community though co- operative purchases of pure-bred males. It can encourage the formation of corn, poultry, pigs, cattle, canning and gardening clubs, which have already demon- strated their value in the sections where they have been established, and it can carry on useful studies of the type of agriculture best fitted to local conditions.

Just as the five business com- mittees are to grapple with the fundamental problems of pro- ducing and selling in their vari- ous forms, the five social com- mittees should direct their ef- forts to improvement of living conditions in the country.

To increase the farmer's in- come is not the only thing need- ed to make rural life what it should be. As a matter of fact says this article, it is the pros- perous farmer who is more inclined to move to town than his less fortunate neighbor. Hav- ing accumulated a competence he wishes to enjoy it, and there are five principal reasons which lead him to believe that he can do this better in the city: First, there are usually better facili- ties for educating his children; second the sanitary conditions are frequently much better in towns and the time does not seem to be far distant when the cities will actually be more healthful than the country.

Again, household conveniences such as hot and cold water heat- ing and lighting systems etc,

are more abundant in the towns and add greatly to the comfort of living. Finally, there is more opportunity for recreation in the city, and frequently, strange as it may appear, more to appeal to the sense of beauty that is inherent in practically every man.

Co operation on the part of rural communities can do as much to alter these conditions as it can to increase the average cash income. The committees that have these matters in charge should, therefore be re- garded as quite as important as those which deal with business questions, and they should re- ceive support from the entire community which they are en- deavoring to benefit. The re- sult will be a community spirit which in its way, is capable of producing as valuable results as the national spirit. In fact says the article in closing, "Patri- otism, like charity, begins at home; that is, in the neighbor- hood."

As an appendix the pamphlet contains a brief list of suggested readings for the various com- mittees. Many of these are Government publications which may be had free of charge by addressing the Division of Pub- lication of the Department of Agriculture, or at a nominal price from the Superintendent of Public Document.

Blauvelt  
Enterprise

## LEARNING THE LESSON.

"Give me a negro, a mule and bull- tongue plow and I will beat all of your scientific farming," said a north Texas farmer several years ago when an ef- fort was made to interest him in sci- entific cultural methods. "Book farm- ing" and "newspaper farming," as many people were wont to call it, brought many sneers and jibes in those days, but time has demonstrated that science and system, when devoted to farming, will pay as handsomely as in other lines of endeavor. Many object lessons were required to do this, but when science took hold of a worn-out Georgia farm and produced more corn to the acre than had ever been grown in the state, farmers began to sit up and make observations.

Year after year, and in localities all



over the United States, farmers have been taught to mix common sense with hard work, and as a result the nation is now harvesting the largest grain and feed crop it has ever raised. Of course this is due in part to an increased acreage, but it is due in greater measure to better cultural methods.

The new and better way of farming is getting such a hold on the farmers that they now want their children educated with a view to better fitting them to be farmers. At a gathering of Mississippi farmers a few days ago this declaration was made:

"If our children are going to be farmers they should be educated to be farmers. We need an agricultural high school. We must have an agricultural high school if our successors on the farm are to be better farmers than we are."

The bulltongue plow, the negro and the mule were good in their day, but we have found a better way of doing things.

## NEGROES ACQUIRING CONTROL OF FARMS

Farm 500,000 Acres More in Alabama Than in 1900.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 3—Negro farmers own or control 5,100,000 acres of land in the State of Alabama alone, or 350,000 more acres than they controlled in 1900. The colored farmers of that State have under their control 3,563,000 acres of improved land, and at present they are farming 500,000 more acres of improved land than they were cultivating in 1900.

In 10 years the number of Negro farmers increased 17.3 per cent., and now they own or control one fourth of all the farm property in Alabama, having an aggregate value of \$97,370,000, or 107.5 per cent. more farm property than they controlled at the beginning of the 10-year period.

These figures show that the Negro of Alabama are keeping pace with the whites in the development of the State's agricultural resources.

According to the Montgomery Advertiser, which has gathered the statistics, the progress of the Negroes in the State of Alabama is only typical of what the Negroes are doing in other States. With its Negro population of 908,282, the third greatest Negro population of all the States, Alabama affords a striking illustration of what the colored race has accomplished. The

first Negro bank in the United States was established in Alabama.

In the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of which Booker T. Washington is the head, it possesses the leading Negro educational institution of the world. Now Alabama has the first railroad in America to be conceived, promoted, built, and operated by Negro people, namely, the Dixie Line, running from Kowalaga Community, colored, 15 miles to Alexander City in the eastern part of the State, where it connects with the Central of Georgia.

"We find first of all that 50 per cent. of all persons in the State engaged in agriculture are Negroes," says The Advertiser. "On the other hand, 75 per cent. of all the Negroes in the State are engaged in agriculture. There are 110,440 colored men operating farms. This is 42 per cent. of all the persons in Alabama, operating farms. The progress of the Negro in agriculture in this State seems to be keeping pace with the progress of the whole State along this line.

"In 1910 there were 17.3 more colored farmers than in 1900, as compared with 17.9, the increase in the number of white farmers. The colored farmers of Alabama control 36.7 per cent. of the total improved land. The average value of the land controlled by Negro farmers is \$14.52 an acre, and the average value of the land cultivated by white farmers is \$13.70.

"There are 17,082 Negro farmers in Alabama who own land. The number of Negro farmers owning the land they cultivate has increased 21 per cent. in the past 10 years. Colored farmers now own 1,500,000 acres of land, and this is about 250,000 acres more than they possessed outright 10 years ago.

"The value of the land and buildings owned by these 17,082 Negro farmers increased during the 10 years beginning 1900 from \$6,644,000 to \$17,285,000. The value of the domestic animals, poultry and bees which the colored farmers owned in 1900 was \$9,776,000, and in 1910 it had increased to \$20,119,000.

"The banking business is another line in which the Negroes of the State are making commendable progress. There are five banks in Alabama operated by Negroes.

"Likewise is shown a remarkable increase during the past 10 years in the number of Negroes who have established successful grocery stores, drug stores, real estate firms, and other enterprises.

"In Macon county the past year, in addition to \$9963 they received from the State, the colored people raised \$7562. During the past five years the Negroes of the same county by voluntary subscriptions gave more than \$20,000 for the support of public schools.

"The Negro church has kept pace with the progress of the Negro in agriculture, commerce, and education. In every city in Alabama where there is a large community of Negroes they have built churches costing from \$20,000 to \$50,000. The value of the church property owned by the colored people of the State amounts for all denominations to \$4,000,000."

## COLONY OF WHITE FARMERS WILL MOVE TO DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA TO GET MANY COLONISTS

Constitution 9-9-13

The establishment of a colony of white farmers in Dougherty county, which will become a reality December 1 when fifteen families move from Chicago to make their homes in south Georgia, is but the first step toward a tremendous colonization scheme which will bring hundreds of families of substantial farmers from the north and west to all parts of Georgia.

This announcement was made in Atlanta Wednesday by R. M. Pindell, of Baltimore, one of the vice presidents and assistant director of the colonization department of the Southern Settlement and Development organization, of Baltimore, which is responsible for the location of this first colony in Dougherty.

Through the Albany Chamber of Commerce all details in Dougherty have been arranged. A large tract of land has been subdivided for the colonists.

The plan for colonization was outlined by Mr. Pindell as follows:

The attention of the people composing this colony, which is to go to Dougherty, was directed to the state of Georgia by personal contact with each individual member of the group by the western representative of the Southern Settlement and Development organization located at Chicago. The inclination and experience of each member was carefully reported upon to the Baltimore office. Upon consideration of the facts thus gathered it was considered that these people could be satisfactorily located in any one of a number of sections of Georgia. One of the representatives of the Baltimore office, thereupon, arranged with the industrial department of two of the railroads operating in Georgia to get the first hand information in detail concerning locations along their lines which might be suitable and available for such a project.

### Land Is Selected.

After examining several such locations in various parts of the state, it was concluded that a certain tract of land in the vicinity of Albany, Ga., was the most nearly available when the special requirements of the particular group of people were considered.

The agent of the organization, Mr. Pindell, spent considerable time in Albany together with the agricultural agent of the Central of Georgia railroad, J. F. Jackson, and got the owner of the land to agree to the terms upon which this colony desired to settle.

Another important phase of the situation was to get the Albany Chamber of Commerce, as the authorized representative of the community, to give active co-operation to the project. This was considered important in order that the colonists might feel that they were welcome in a strange community and that, in time, they might, upon a proper showing of efficiency and character, become a useful and respected part of that community.

This campaign was entirely successful and about three months ago a formal invitation was extended by the Albany Chamber of Commerce to the colonists to send their representatives to Dougherty county to study conditions at first hand and pick out a location. This was done and the committee representing the colonists not only inspected land in Dougherty county, but made a similar inspection in at least one other county nearby. This was followed up by visits of an agricultural expert, who came as the

representative of the colonists and made a painstaking examination of the land. After investigation was completed the colonists were given sufficient time to gather such information as they desired from other sources, and as it was desired that they should make up their minds deliberately that this particular section was entirely suited to their requirements.

### Ready to Make Decision.

About two weeks ago the colonists notified the representatives of the Southern Settlement and Development organization that they were ready to make a decision, and following the usual practice in such cases, D. L. Beattie, representative of the owner of the land, and Secretary Mack, of the Albany Chamber of Commerce, went to Chicago to meet these people personally and come to a complete understanding as to the terms and condition of settlement.

"As a result of these conferences and negotiations," said Mr. Pindell, "we expect to see a number of families located upon the tract in Dougherty county by December 1. After that from time to time we have every reason to expect that the initial number of colonists will be substantially increased in Dougherty."

It is the plan of the Southern Settlement and Development organization that its activities shall not be limited to this one county, but that in the next year or two a dozen or more similar colonies shall be located in various parts of the agricultural sections of the state.

In furthering this work it is expected that the Georgia branch of the organization, which was organized at Tybee island July 24, last, will be of immense help.

It is the plan of the Baltimore office that in the course of a short time it will not have to be charged with the necessity of locating available tracts of land in suitable parts of Georgia for colonization purposes, but that this feature of the work will be taken care of amply by the Georgia organization.

This will allow the Baltimore offices, through its various agencies in other sections, to concentrate its efforts solely upon the finding of colonists who are suitable for and desirous of locating in Georgia.

The work in Georgia will be in charge of a Georgia man, who will be familiar with Georgia conditions and will be in position to furnish the Baltimore organization with tracts which are properly located and available for colonization purposes in communities where such colonies are really needed and wanted.